



2010

POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS

DISTRICT ANALYTICAL REPORT

WEST AKIM MUNICIPALITY



Canada 

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK
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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.

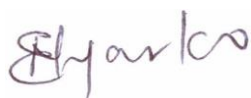
A population census is the most important source of data on the size, composition, growth and distribution of a country's population at the national and sub-national levels. Data from the 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC) will serve as reference for equitable distribution of national resources 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 (MMDAs), with district-level analytical reports based on the 2010 PHC data to facilitate their planning and decision-making.

The District Analytical Report for the West Akim Municipality 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 profile of the Municipality, the report discusses the social and economic dimensions of demographic variables and their implications for policy formulation, planning and interventions. The conclusions and recommendations drawn from the district report are expected to serve as a basis for improving the quality of life of Ghanaians through evidence-based decision-making, monitoring and evaluation of developmental goals and intervention programmes.

For ease of accessibility to the census data, the district report and other census reports produced by the GSS will be disseminated widely in both print and electronic formats. The report will also be posted on the GSS website: www.statsghana.gov.gh.

The GSS wishes to express its profound gratitude to the Government of Ghana for providing the required resources for the conduct of the 2010 PHC. While appreciating the contribution of our Development Partners (DPs) towards the successful implementation of the Census, we wish to specifically acknowledge the Department for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) formerly the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) for providing resources for the preparation of all the 216 district reports. Our gratitude also goes to the Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies, the Ministry of Local Government, Consultant Guides, Consultant Editors, Project Steering Committee members and their respective institutions for their invaluable support during the report writing exercise. Finally, we wish to thank all the report writers, including the GSS staff who contributed to the preparation of the reports, for their dedication and diligence in ensuring the timely and successful completion of the district census reports.



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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CBR	Crude Birth Rate
CDR	Crude death rate
CEB	Children Ever Born
CS	Children Surviving
DFID	Department for International Development
DPs	Development Partners
ECOWAS	Economic Community Of West African States
EU	European Union
GFR	General Fertility Rate
GSGDA	Ghana Shared Growth Development Agenda
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
ICT	Information Communication Technology
JHS	Junior High School
JSS	Junior Secondary School
KVIP	Kumasi Ventilated Improved Pit
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
PHC	Population and Housing Census
PWD	Persons with Disability
SHS	Senior High School
SSS	Senior Secondary School
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
UN	United Nations
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
WC	Water Closet

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

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

Population size, structure and composition

The population of West Akim Municipal, according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census, is 108,298 representing 2.6 percent of the region's total population. Males constitute 48.2 percent and females represent 51.8 percent. Almost half, fifty percent (50.0%) of the population is rural. The district has a sex ratio of 93.1. The population of the district is youthful (39.2%) depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a small number of elderly persons (5.2%). The total age dependency ratio for the District is 80.6, the age dependency ratio for males is higher (87.1) than that of females (74.9).

Fertility, mortality and migration

The Total Fertility Rate for the district 3.6. The General Fertility Rate is 106.9 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years which is among the highest in the region. The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 26.6 per 1000 population. The crude death rate for the district is 8.0 per 1000. The death rate for males is highest for age 65 and above representing 48 deaths per 1000 population while for the females, the highest death rate of 23 deaths per 1000 population is for ages 65-69. Out of the total population enumerated Majority of migrants (31.1%) are migrants living in the Municipality. Migrants born elsewhere in the region staying in the Municipality account for 18.1 percent, while migrants from the Central Region representing 10.5 percent live in the district.

Household size, composition and structure

The district has a household population of 107,095 with a total number of 26,752 households. The average household size in the district is 4.0 persons per household. Children constitute the largest proportion of the household members accounting for 41.7 percent. Spouses form about 10.6 percent. Nuclear households (head, spouse(s) and children) constitute 48.6 percent of the total number of households in the district.

Marital status

About four in ten (43.3%) of the population aged 12 years and older are married, 38.9 percent have never married, 5.5 percent are in consensual unions, 5.5 percent are widowed, 4.4 percent are divorced and 2.4 percent are separated. By age 25-29 years, more than half of females (57.1%) are married compared to a little above one-fourth of males (47.5%). At age 65 and above, widowed females account for as high as 55.0 percent while widowed males account for only 11.2 percent. . Among the married, 22.3 percent have no education while about 5.5 percent of the unmarried have never been to school. More than half of the married

population (83.5%) are employed, 2.4 percent are unemployed and 14.1 percent are economically not active. A greater proportion of those who have never married (61.6%) are economically not active with 3.9 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 1.6 percent.

Literacy and education

Of the population 11 years and above, 82.5 percent are literate and 10.8 percent are non-literate. The proportion of literate males is higher (89.2 %) than that of females (76.5%). Seven out of ten people (63.4%) indicated they could speak and write both English and Ghanaian languages. Of the population aged 3 years and above in the district, 16.3 percent has never attended school, 40.0 percent are currently attending and 43.7 percent have attended in the past.

Economic activity status

About 71.8 percent of the population aged 15 years and older are economically active while 28.2 percent are economically not active. Of the economically active population, 68.4 percent are employed while 3.4 percent are unemployed. For those who are economically not active, a larger percentage of them are students (45.4%), 24.4% perform household duties and 6.8 percent are disabled or too sick to work. Six out of ten (66.3%) unemployed are seeking work for the first time.

Occupation

Of the employed population, about 43.8 percent are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, 20.1 percent in service and sales, 15.4 percent in craft and related trade, and 8.8 percent are engaged as managers, professionals, and technicians.

Employment status and sector

Of the population 15 years and older 70.6 percent are self-employed without employees, 7.9 percent are contributing family workers, 1.7 percent are casual workers and 0.5 percent are domestic employees (house helps). Overall, men constitute the highest proportion in each employment category except the Self-employed without employees. The private informal sector is the largest employer in the district, employing 90.1 percent of the population followed by the public sector with 6.0 percent.

Information Communication Technology

Of the population 12 years and above, 43.8 percent have mobile phones. Males who own mobile phones constitute 48.8 percent as compared to 39.4 percent of females. About three percent of the population 12 years and older use internet facilities in the district. Only 1,033 households representing 3.9 percent of the total households in the district have desktop/laptop computers.

Disability

About 2.7 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 (2.6%) than females (2.7%). The types of disability in the district include sight, hearing, speech, physical,

intellect, and emotion. Persons with sight disability recorded the highest of 35.7 percent followed by physical disability (30.8%). About 3.0 percent of the population with disability are in the rural localities. There are more females with sight, physical and emotional disabilities than males in both the urban and rural localities. Of the population disabled, 34.9 percent have never been to school.

Agriculture

As high as 57.0 percent of households in the district are engaged in agriculture. In the rural localities, six out of ten households (64.4%) are agricultural households while in the urban localities, 35.6 percent of households are into agriculture. Most households in the district (96.1%) are involved in crop farming. Poultry (chicken) is the dominant animal reared in the district

Housing

The housing stock of West Akim Municipality is 15,999 representing 3.7 percent of the total number of houses in the Eastern Region. The average number of persons per house is 6.8.

Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units

Over half (63.7%) of all dwelling units in the district are compound houses; 25.2 percent are separate houses and 5.1 percent are semi-detached houses. More than half (51.9%) of the dwelling units in the district are owned by members who are not household members; 30.9 percent are owned by private individuals; and only 0.8 percent are owned by public or government. Less than one percent (0.2%) of the dwelling units is owned through mortgage schemes.

Material for construction of outer wall, floor and roof

The main construction material for outer walls of dwelling units in the district is cement blocks accounting for 60.8 percent with Mud bricks/Earth constituting 34.8 percent of outer walls of dwelling units in the district. Cement (77.6%) and mud/earth (19.7%) are the two main materials used in the construction of floors of dwelling units in the district. Metal sheets are the main roofing material (94.1 %) for dwelling units in the district.

Room occupancy

One room constitutes the highest percentage (58.3%) of sleeping rooms occupied by households in housing units in the district. About 23.6 percent of households with 10 or more members occupy single rooms.

Utilities and household facilities

The three main sources of lighting in dwelling units in the district are electricity from the national grid, kerosene lamp and flashlight/torch with the electricity (59.9%), Kerosene lamp (29.5%) and Flashlight (9.2%). The main source of fuel for cooking for most households in the district is wood (47.6%). The proportion for rural (81.3%) is higher than that of urban (20.1%). The four main sources of water in the district are river stream (20.6%), Bore hole (18.8%) and protected well (17.1%) and Pipe borne outside dwelling (16.1%).

The most important toilet facility used in the district is public toilet (WC, KVIP, Pit, Pan) representing 34.9 percent followed by pit latrine (34.4%). About 5.6 percent of the population in the district has no toilet facility. A little more than a quarter of households (42.5%) in the

district share separate bathrooms in the same house while 22.9 percent own bathrooms for their exclusive use.

Waste disposal

The most widely method of solid waste disposal is by public dump in the open space and public dump (Container) accounting for 36.4 percent each respectively. About one in ten households (8.1%) dump their solid waste indiscriminately. House to house waste collection accounts for only 2.6 percent. For liquid waste disposal, throwing waste onto the compound (41.6%) and onto the street (30.0%) are the two most common methods used by households in the district.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The West Akim Municipal is one of the twenty-six (26) Districts in the Eastern Region of Ghana. It was established by Legislative Instrument (L.I.) 1421 of 1988 and Local Government Act 462 of 1993. It was elevated to a Municipal status in 2008. Asamankese is the Municipal capital for West Akim Municipal.

The West Akim Municipal lies between longitudes $0^{\circ} 25'$ West and $0^{\circ} 47'$ West and latitudes $50^{\circ} 40'$ North and $60^{\circ}.0'$ North. It shares boundaries with Denkyembour District to the North; Birim South District to the West; Agona, Awutu-Efutu-Senya and Ga Districts to the South and Suhum Municipal and Upper West Akim District to the East. The total land area of the Municipality is 475.02km². The Municipal capital, Asamankese, is about 75 km. North-West of Accra.

1.2 Physical Features

1.2.1 Relief and drainage

The land is generally undulating with heights ranging between 60 meters and 460 meters above sea level. The highest point is around the Atewa Range, located between Pabi-Wawase and Asamankese in the Northern part of the Municipality, most of which is occupied by the Atewa Range Extension Forest Reserve.

The Municipality is well drained by rivers like Ayensu, Ntoasu, Abukyen, Akora, Supon, and Obotwene/Ansing among others. These rivers flow in the Southern direction. Most of the rivers have their sources in the Atewa Range and a few taking their sources from the Eastern part. The rivers are mostly perennial due to the double maxima rain-fall which feeds them.

1.2.2 Climate

The Municipality lies within the wet-semi-equatorial climatic zone which receives rainfall between 1,238mm and 1,660mm. This is characterized by a double maxima rainfall pattern with which supports all-year round plant growth. The major rainy season is from March to June with the heaviest rainfall in June. The second rainfall season is from September to October. The average temperature ranges between 25.2°C minimum and 27.9°C maximum. Relative humidity is highest during the rainy season of about 80-95% and 55-80% during the dry season.

1.2.3 Vegetation

The Municipality falls within the semi-deciduous forest. The vegetation is mainly characterized by tall trees with evergreen undergrowth and contains valuable economic trees like Odum, Wawa, Sapele, Obeche, Onyina, Emire and others. Scattered particles of secondary forest are characteristic of the vegetation as a result of indiscriminate farming, lumbering, building and mining activities. The West Akim district has about 42 km² of the Atewa Range Extension Forest Reserve.

1.2.4 Soils and suitability for agriculture

The soils of the district can be classified into four main groups, namely:

- Kumasi-Asuansi/Nta-Ofin, Nsaba-Swedru/Nta-Ofin and Bekwai-Nzima/Oda Soil associations
- Atewa/Ansum, Adawso-Bawjiasi/Nta-Ofin, Atewiredu-Katie and Atukrom-Asikuma/Ansum Soil Associations
- Yaya-Bediesi/Bejua, Nyanao-Tinkong/Opimo and Pimpimso-Sutawa/Bejua Soil Associations
- Chichiwere-Ayensu/Kakum and Amo-Tefle Soil Association

1.3 Political Administration

The Local Government Act, 1993, Act 462 established the district assembly as the highest political and administrative authority with the mandate to initiate development and coordinate all activities aimed at sustained development within the area of its jurisdiction.

The Municipal Assembly is headed by the Chief Executive, who is the political head and the Co-ordinating Director is the head of administration of the municipality. The Municipal Assembly has a total of 48 members, comprising 34 elected members, 14 Government Appointees including the Municipal Chief Executive and 1 Member of Parliament. A number of established sub-committees function as operating arms of the Executive Committee and assist in the implementation of specific activities of the assembly.

The Municipality has one constituency (Lower West Akim). The sub-district structure is made of 3 Zonal Councils, namely:

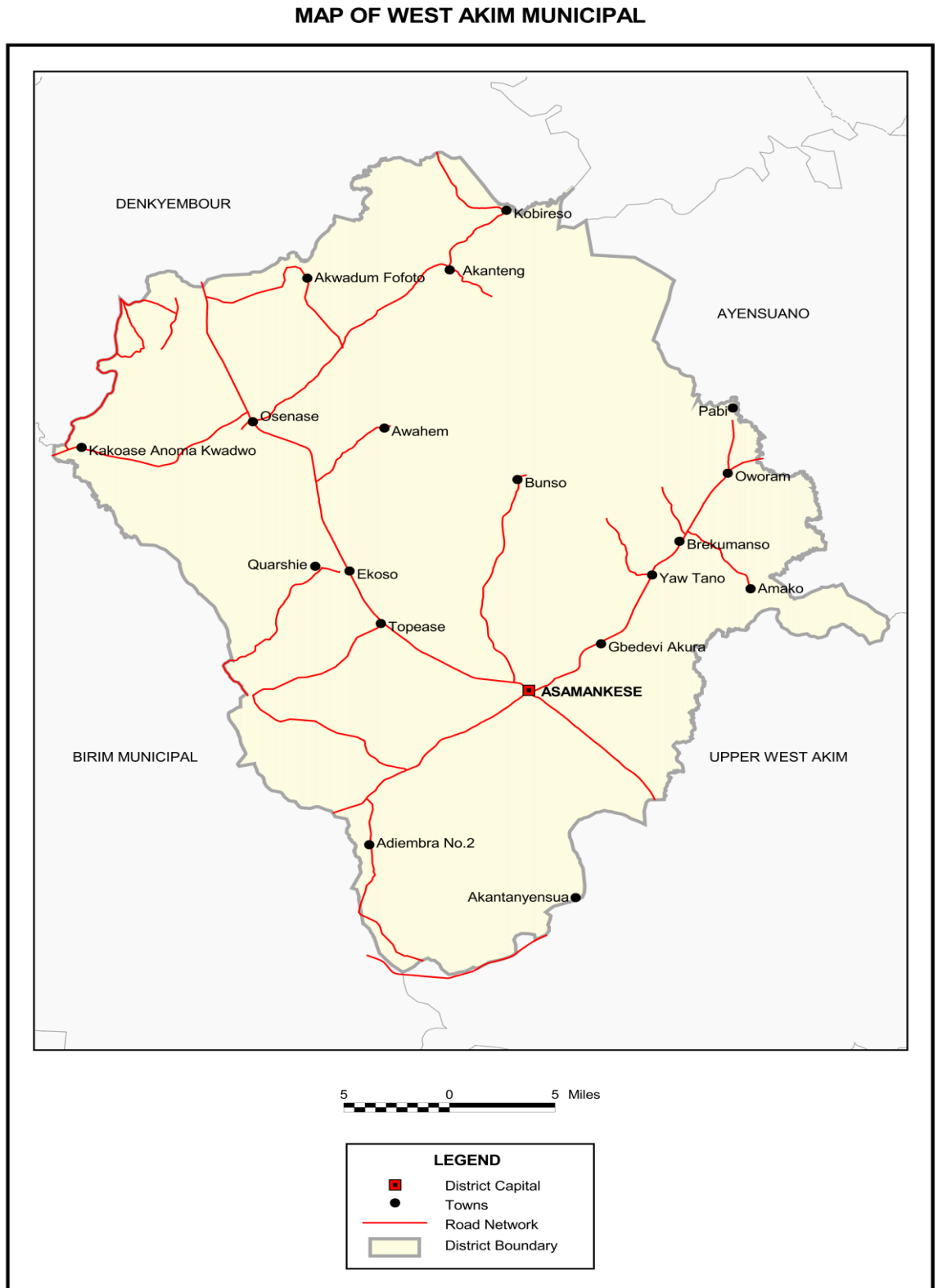
- Asamankese Zonal Council
- Osenase Zonal Council
- Brekumanso Zonal Council

1.4 Cultural and Social Structure

The Municipality is under the jurisdiction of Oseawuo division of the Akyem Abuakwa Traditional Council. The festival celebrated by the people of the Municipality is Ohum. The major ethnic groups are the Akans 48.3 percent followed by the Ewes, 20.7 percent; people of the Northern origin, 13.8 percent and the Ga-Adangbe 17.2 percent.

The Municipality is predominantly Christian constituting about 81.6 percent of the population, Muslims 8.5 percent, traditional religions 1.0 percent and other religion 9.0 percent.

Figure 1.1: Map of West Akim Municipal



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, GIS

1.5 Economy

The predominant occupation in the Municipality is subsistence agriculture, employing about 52.1 percent of the labour force. Other occupations are Commerce 25.3 percent, Artisans 12.0, Public Servants 7.5 percent and others 3.0 percent.

1.5.1 Food and cash crop

The major food and cash crops cultivated in the Municipality include cassava, plantain, maize, oil palm, cocoa and citrus fruits. Animals reared on commercial basis in the Municipality are sheep, goats, pigs and poultry. The Municipality has 5 main markets which are located at Asamankese, Adeiso, Osenase, Akanteng and Abamkrom.

1.5.2 Mining

Mining activities are undertaken in the Municipality in the following areas: Anoma kwadwo-Diamond, Akanteng and Awaham-Gold. Stone quarrying is also common in the Municipality.

1.5.3 Tourism potentials

The municipality is endowed with some potential tourist attractions which can be sufficiently developed to generate revenue for the local economy. These are mainly waterfalls, ecotourism, and caves. Some of these attractions are:

1. The Atewa Range Forest Reserve which is located at the Northern end of the municipality.
2. Three waterfalls which take their source from the Atewa Range Forest. The summit of the water falls is surrounded by natural vegetation/virgin forest. The three waterfalls are:
 - Kwaku Sae Waterfalls, 20 meters high sited on River Ansome at Amanfrom near Brekumanso.
 - Akanteng falls is 50 meters high and takes its source from River Emow. It is located South-East of Akanteng near Osenase.
 - Aworotenteng Falls is 50 meters high and sited on River Pram, 6km away from Kobriso near Akanteng.

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

1.6.4 Post enumeration survey

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

- 97.0 percent of all household residents who were in the country on Census Night (26th September, 2010) were enumerated.
- 1.3 percent of the population was erroneously included in the census.
- Regional differentials are observed. Upper East region recorded the highest coverage rate of 98.2 percent while the Volta region had the lowest coverage rate of 95.7 percent.
- Males (3.3%) were more likely than females (2.8%) to be omitted in the census. The coverage rate for males was 96.7 percent and the coverage rate for females was 97.2

percent. Also, the coverage rates (94.1%) for those within the 20-29 and 30-39 age groups are relatively lower compared to the coverage rates of the other age groups.

- There was a high rate of agreement between the 2010 PHC data and the PES data for sex (98.8%), marital status (94.6%), relationship to head of household (90.5%) and age (83.0%).

1.6.5 Release and dissemination of results

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

1.6.6 Concepts and definitions

Introduction

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

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

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

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

Fertility

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

Mortality

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

Agriculture

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

Housing conditions and facilities

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

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

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

1.7 Organization of the Report

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

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

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

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

CHAPTER TWO

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

2.1 Introduction

The age composition and sex structure is important any for meaningful analysis of a country. These inform decision making and proper planning of programmes and policy implementation. This section talks about the age composition, the sex structure, population distribution, age dependency, fertility, migration and mortality of West Akim Municipal.

2.2 Population Size and Distribution

Table 2.1 shows population size and sex ratio of the Municipal. The total population of West Akim Municipal according to the 2010 population and housing census is 108,298. This is almost three percent (2.6%) of the regional population. The female population is 51.8 percent higher than the male population of 48.2 percent.

The sex ratio of the West Akim Municipal is 93.1 per 100 females which show predominance of females over males in the Municipality. It also implies that for every 100 females there is a corresponding 93 males.

2.2.1 Age-sex structure

Table 2.1 shows the age structure by sex and age group of West Akim Municipal. It indicates that majority (39.2%) of the population in the Municipality are under 15 years of age. This is followed by broad age groups 25-39 years and 15-24 years (18.6% each), followed by age 40-64 years (18.2%) . The population in the age group 65 years and above records the lowest percent (5.2%).

For the sexes, population under 15 years has the highest percent for both males and the females but it is higher for the males (41.2%) than for the females (36.7%). This has a strong impact on dependency ratio and therefore decision makers and development planners at the municipal level should adopt appropriate policies and strategies to curb this situation. Apart from the ages under 15 where males are slightly more than females, female population out number male population in all the other age groups as indicated in Table 2.1.

2.2.2 Dependency ratio

The dependency ratio tells us how many young people (under 15) and older people (65+) depend on people of working age (15 to 64). The dependency ratio is therefore the proportion of the dependent population (0-14 years + 65 years and above) divided by the working population, 15-64 years. A high dependency ratio can cause serious problems for a community if a large proportion of economic active population takes care of the youngest and the oldest population.

Table 2.1 shows the dependency ratio by sex of West Akim Municipal. From the 2010 population and housing census, the municipality has a dependency ratio of 80.6 which is somehow lower than the regional dependency ratio of 82. This means that on the average, almost one person from the active population takes care of one person from the inactive population in the municipality. It can also be observed that child dependency ratio in the municipality is 70.4 with old age dependency ratio being 9.8.

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

Age Group	Sex			Sex ratio	Type of locality	
	Both Sexes	Male	Female		Urban	Rural
All Ages	108,298	52,208	56,090	93.1	54,146	54,152
0 - 4	15,093	7,734	7,359	105.1	6,862	8,231
5 - 9	13,739	7,021	6,718	104.5	6,308	7,431
10 - 14	13,597	7,062	6,535	108.1	6,600	6,997
15 - 19	11,408	5,765	5,643	102.2	6,019	5,389
20 - 24	8,682	3,859	4,823	80.0	4,946	3,736
25 - 29	7,610	3,274	4,336	75.5	4,154	3,456
30 - 34	6,498	2,936	3,562	82.4	3,583	2,915
35 - 39	6,047	2,733	3,314	82.5	3,113	2,934
40 - 44	5,360	2,534	2,826	89.7	2,711	2,649
45 - 49	4,638	2,159	2,479	87.1	2,268	2,370
50 - 54	4,237	1,953	2,284	85.5	2,064	2,173
55 - 59	2,978	1,465	1,513	96.8	1,490	1,488
60 - 64	2,516	1,231	1,285	95.8	1,175	1,341
65 - 69	1,511	694	817	84.9	731	780
70 - 74	1,729	709	1,020	69.5	801	928
75 - 79	1,087	478	609	78.5	568	519
80 - 84	799	325	474	68.6	406	393
85+	769	276	493	157.7	347	422
All Ages	108,298	52,208	56,090	93.1	54,146	54,152
0 - 14	42,429	21,817	20,612	105.8	19,770	22,659
15 - 64	59,974	27,909	32,065	87.0	31,523	28,451
65+	5,895	2,482	3,413	72.7	2,853	3,042
Age-dependency ratio	80.6	87.1	74.9		71.8	90.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

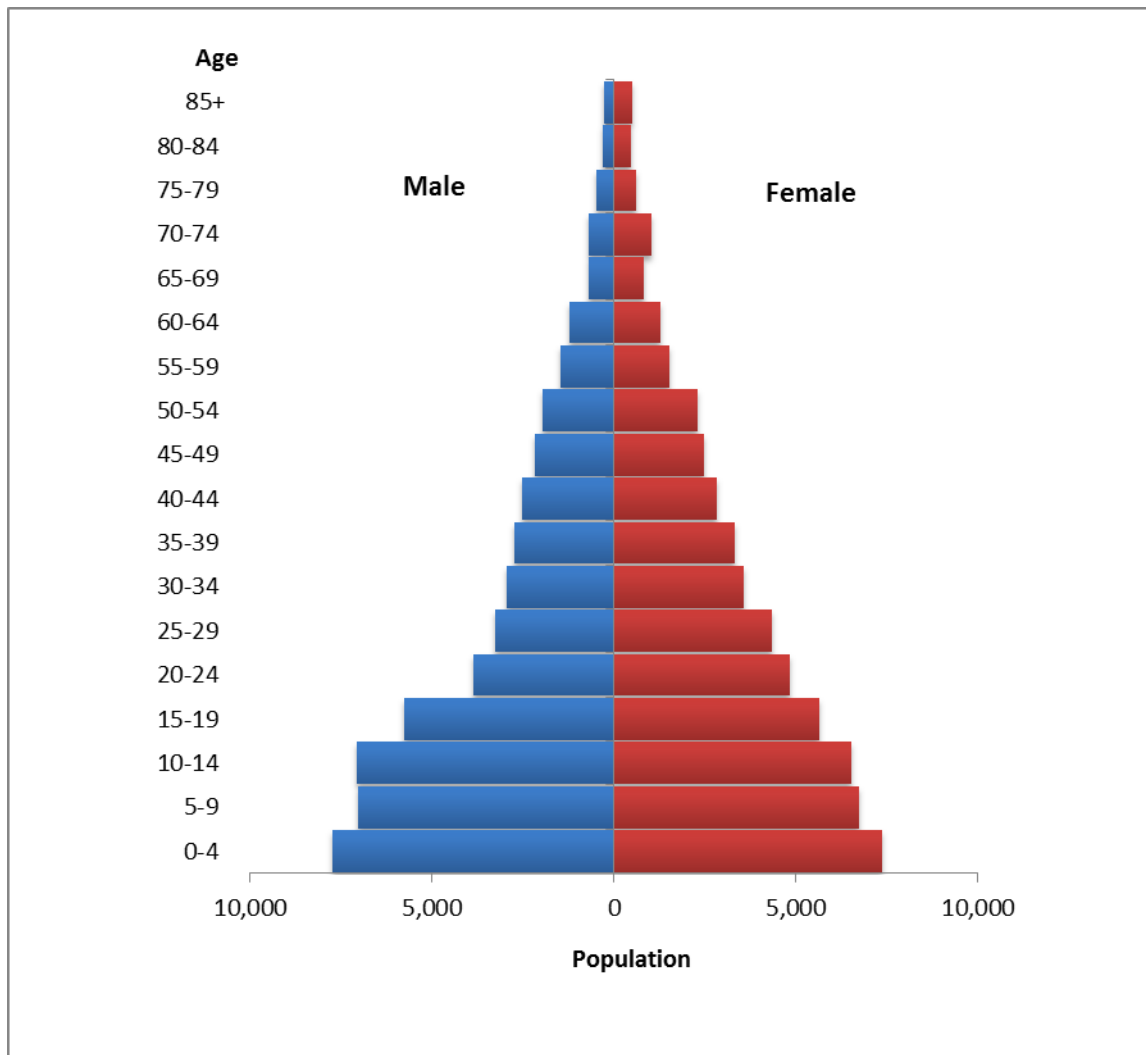
2.2.3 Population pyramid

Figure 2.1 gives a graphical presentation of age-sex structure of the West Akim Municipal. The figure shows a youthful structure that is a characteristic of a developing country such as Ghana. The figure on the age-sex structure is broad based, comprising of concentration of children at younger ages. Figure 2.1 shows that a large new cohort is born every year as displayed at the bottom of the pyramid (ages 0-4 years). As cohorts age, they inevitably lose members either through death or migration or both. This is shown by the narrowing of the population at its peaks. Another feature of the Municipal population pyramid is that females in the oldest age groups form the substantial majority than the males.

2.3 Fertility, Mortality and Migration

A change in the size of population over time depends on three components of population-fertility, mortality and migration, which is important for socioeconomic planning and policy adoption. In developing countries such as Ghana, where population registers are non-existent, censuses provide the more comprehensive data on fertility, mortality and migration in terms of coverage than surveys and other sources. Censuses, however, may not capture all aspects of the components of population as surveys do. The aspects of fertility, mortality and migration covered by the Ghana 2010 PHC that are relevant for socioeconomic planning and policy adoption in the Municipality.

Figure 2.1: Population pyramid



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.3.1 Fertility

Data was collected to determine the number of live births that females 12-54 years old had in the 12 months preceding the census night. Measures of fertility are essential in determining the size and structure of the population of a territory.

Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is the average number of children that would be born to a woman by the time she completes childbearing if she was to experience the prevailing age-specific fertility rate. Crude Birth Rate (CBR) requires only the total number of births and the total population. It is crude and always expressed per 1000 population. The general fertility rate (GFR) expresses births relative to the number of women in the reproductive age.

Table 2.2 shows reported fertility rate, general fertility rate and crude birth rate by municipal and region. Out of the total population of 108,298 in the Municipal, 26,983 are females between the ages of 15-49 years. There was a total of 2,885 births in the 12 months preceding the census night. The Total Fertility Rate in the Municipal for women aged 15-49 years is 3.6 births per woman. This means that a woman in the district would have an average of almost four (3.6) children in her lifetime. This however appears to be higher than the regional average of 3.5 births per woman. The GFR for the females between the ages of 15-49 years is

106.9 while the CBR is 26.6. These are both higher than the regional averages of 103.9 and 25.4 for GFR and CBR respectively.

Table 2.2: Reported total fertility rate, general fertility rate and crude birth rate by district

District	Population	Number of women 15-49 years	Number of births in last 12 months	Total Fertility Rate	*General Fertility Rate	**Crude Birth Rate
All Districts	2,633,154	643,534	66,840	3.5	103.9	25.4
New Juaben Municipal	183,727	51,991	3,535	2.4	68.0	19.2
East Akim Municipal	167,896	41,601	3,741	3.1	89.9	22.3
Birim Municipal	144,869	37,286	3,359	3.1	90.1	23.2
Akwapem North	136,483	33,245	3,439	3.6	103.4	25.2
Birim South	119,767	28,227	3,227	3.9	114.3	26.9
Kwahu Afram Plains South	115,812	25,424	3,575	4.7	140.6	30.9
Kwaebibirem	113,721	27,940	3,351	4.3	119.9	29.5
Atiwa	110,622	25,131	3,163	4.2	125.9	28.6
Fanteakwa	108,614	25,543	2,737	3.7	107.2	25.2
West Akim Municipal	108,298	26,983	2,885	3.6	106.9	26.6
Kwahu Afram Plains North	102,423	23,110	2,846	4.2	123.2	27.8
Asuogyaman	98,046	24,863	2,225	3.1	89.5	22.7
Akyem Mansa	97,374	22,080	2,701	4.3	122.3	27.7
Kwahu West Municipal	93,584	23,980	2,279	3.3	95.0	24.4
Suhum Municipal	90,358	22,423	2,109	3.1	94.1	23.3
Lower Manya	89,246	24,478	2,140	3.0	87.4	24.0
Yilo Krobo	87,847	22,199	2,001	2.9	90.1	22.8
Upper West Akyem	87,051	20,196	2,482	4.2	122.9	28.5
Nsawam Adoagyiri Municipal	86,000	22,241	1,996	3.1	89.7	23.2
Birim North	78,907	18,533	2,152	3.9	116.1	27.3
Denkyembuor	78,841	19,644	1,950	3.4	99.3	24.7
Ayensuano	77,193	17,192	2,169	4.2	126.2	28.1
Kwahu East	77,125	16,910	2,041	4.2	120.7	26.5
Upper Manya	72,092	16,616	1,852	3.7	111.5	25.7
Kwahu South	69,757	16,259	1,854	3.8	114.0	26.6
Akwapim South	37,501	9,439	1,031	3.8	109.2	27.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Note: * Number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15-49 years

** Number of live births per 1,000 population

Children ever born and children surviving

Table 2.3 shows the female population 12 years and older by age, children ever born, children surviving and sex of child. In total, 39,238 females of age 12 years and older was recorded in the municipality during the 2010 PHC with the age group 15-19 years having the highest number of women of (5,643), followed by age group 20-24 years of (4,823).

The average number of children ever born by the females stands at 2.8. There exists narrow gap between sexes in the children ever born with males children slightly more than females among the age groups as indicated by the table 2.2. Policy makers now have to address childbearing among children (child pregnancy) in addition to teenage pregnancy. Such early childbearing has implications for the school attendance and career development of the child mothers. Also women in the age 60 years and above have the highest number of children ever born in the municipality. This is because they constitute the third (4,698) majority in the municipality. It can also be observed that as the female's age's increases, average children ever born also increases steadily.

Table 2.3 shows the children surviving by sex of the child. Out of 107,986 children ever born, 92,449 (85.6%) are surviving as reported by the 2010 PHC. However children born to females in the age group 60+ years which are surviving is higher in the Municipality (22,217), follow by females in age group 45-49 years (11,276) follow by age group 35-39 (11,211) and lowest being age group 12-14 years (12).

Table 2.3: Female population 12 years and older by age, children ever born, average children ever born, children surviving and sex of child

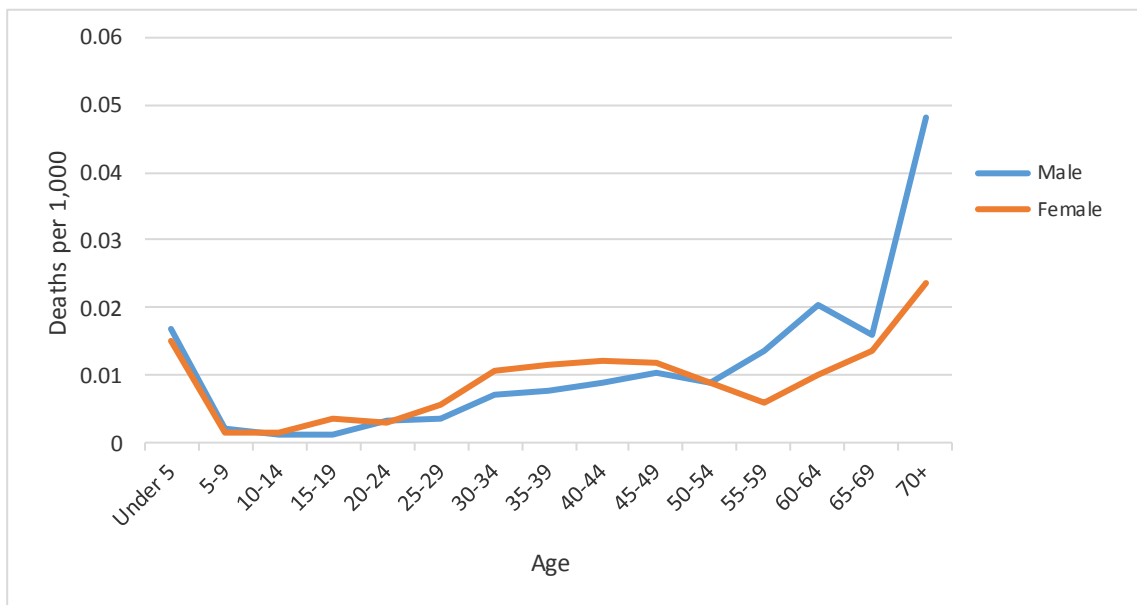
Age	Number of Female	Children Ever Born			Average CEB	Children Surviving		
		Both Sexes	Male	Female		Both Sexes	Male	Female
All Ages	39,238	107,986	54,491	53,495	2.8	92,449	46,186	46,263
12-14	3,760	16	5	11	0.0	12	4	8
15-19	5,643	785	397	388	0.1	702	344	358
20-24	4,823	3,880	1,941	1,939	0.8	3,538	1,719	1,819
25-29	4,336	7,378	3,717	3,661	1.7	6,810	3,382	3,428
30-34	3,562	9,931	5,056	4,875	2.8	9,113	4,566	4,547
35-39	3,314	12,332	6,309	6,023	3.7	11,211	5,683	5,528
40-44	2,826	12,634	6,360	6,274	4.5	11,276	5,636	5,640
45-49	2,479	12,092	6,090	6,002	4.9	10,697	5,361	5,336
50-54	2,284	11,899	5,931	5,968	5.2	10,203	5,047	5,156
55-59	1,513	8,069	4,025	4,044	5.3	6,670	3,296	3,374
60+	4,698	28,970	14,660	14,310	6.2	22,217	11,148	11,069

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.3.2 Mortality

Mortality refers to all recorded deaths that occurred in the household during the 12 months preceding the Census Night. This includes deaths due to accidents, violence, homicide and suicide. Also, it includes pregnancy-related deaths of females aged 12-54. Figure 2.2 indicates that the reported age specific death rate (ASDR) for the under-five is slightly higher for males than for the females. There is a slight increase in ASDRs for females from 15-19 to 25-29 as compared to males. There is a general rise in ASDRs for females over males from age 24-49 upwards thus suggesting a relatively life higher life expectancy for females than males. Male mortality however, increases from age 54 upwards.

Figure 2.2: Age-specific death rate (ASDR)



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Crude death rate

Crude death rate (CDR) is the number of deaths per 1000 population in a given year. The West Akim Municipal recorded 866 households' deaths in the 12 months preceding the 2010 census. The crude death rate stands at 8.0 deaths per 1,000 population (Table 2.4).

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

District	Total Population	Deaths in households	*Crude death rate
All Districts	2,633,154	21,519	8.2
New Juaben Municipal	183,727	1,085	5.9
East Akim Municipal	167,896	1,427	8.5
Birim Municipal	144,869	966	6.7
Akwapem North	136,483	1,317	9.6
Birim South	119,767	1,351	11.3
Kwahu Afram Plains South	115,812	539	4.7
Kwaebibirem	113,721	726	6.4
Atiwa	110,622	1,064	9.6
Fanteakwa	108,614	911	8.4
West Akim Municipal	108,298	866	8.0
Kwahu Afram Plains North	102,423	455	4.4
Asuogyaman	98,046	853	8.7
Akyem Mansa	97,374	805	8.3
Kwahu West Municipal	93,584	659	7.0
Suhum Municipal	90,358	632	7.0
Lower Manya	89,246	940	10.5
Yilo Krobo	87,847	1,198	13.6
Upper West Akyem	87,051	662	7.6
Nsawam Adoagyiri Municipal	86,000	448	5.2
Birim North	78,907	595	7.5
Denkyembuor	78,841	444	5.6
Ayensuano	77,193	741	9.6
Kwahu East	77,125	992	12.9
Upper Manya	72,092	607	8.4
Kwahu South	69,757	879	12.6
Akwapim South	37,501	357	9.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Note: * Number of deaths per 1,000 population

2.3.3 Migration

As one of the three important factors of population change in a locality, migration is associated with the search for better educational and job opportunities; the pursuit of individual aspirations; the plight from poverty, political instability, conflict or human rights abuse; and displacement due to natural or man-made disasters and environmental degradation. Recent changes in the size, direction and intensity of migration flows have been influenced by a wide range of economic, demographic, social, political and environmental factors. The 2010 PHC collected information on nationality and birthplace.

Table 2.6 shows birthplace by duration of residence of migrant in the Municipality. Data on place of birth and place of enumeration provides information on movement of the people. Out of the total population enumerated, 33,574 are migrants representing 31.1 percent of the total population in the municipality. Majority of the migrants residing in the municipality have stayed for one to four years. Those who have stayed for 20 years and above account for 24.8 percent, followed by those who have stayed for five to nine years 16.6 percent while 12.9 percent have stayed less than one year.

Migrants born elsewhere in the region but residing in the Municipality represent 18.1 percent of the migrant population with those who have stayed for 20 years and above accounting for 25.6 percent. This is followed by those who have stayed between 1-4 years and so on.

Migrants born in Central Region (3,541) account for the majority of migrants born elsewhere in another region but residing in the municipality, followed by those from Volta Region (3,467), Greater Accra Region (2,249) and Ashanti Region (1,899) with those from Upper West being the least (78).

The duration of residence of migrants born in another region but residing in the municipality varies among the regions. Those residing in the Municipality for 1-4 years account for majority of the migrants born elsewhere in another region. Western (30.3%), Central (23.9%), Greater (29.9%), Volta (18.8%), Ashanti (28.9%), Brong Ahafo (27.3%), Northern (26.1%), Upper East (25.0%) and Upper West (37.2%), (Table 2.5).

Table 2.5: Birthplace by duration of residence of migrants

Birthplace	Number	Less than 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20+ years
Total	33,574	12.9	25.3	16.6	20.4	24.8
Born elsewhere in the region	19,495	13.0	25.4	16.4	19.6	25.6
Born elsewhere in another region:						
Western	992	13.8	30.3	20.6	22.6	12.7
Central	3,541	12.2	23.9	18.6	20.8	24.5
Greater Accra	2,249	14.9	29.9	15.9	19.1	20.2
Volta	3,467	9.8	18.8	15.2	23.7	32.5
Eastern	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ashanti	1,899	14.4	28.9	16.7	20.7	19.3
Brong Ahafo	565	18.9	27.3	14.7	21.8	17.3
Northern	441	14.5	26.1	12.5	18.6	28.3
Upper East	252	13.9	25.0	20.6	17.5	23.0
Upper west	78	6.4	37.2	19.2	29.5	7.7
Outside Ghana	595	10.9	27.1	18.0	24.2	19.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER THREE

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Introduction

The welfare of a nation, the community and the people can be better understood in the light of the household groups and their characteristics such as: living arrangements of the members, migration of household members, household relations, among others. The size, structure and composition of households are influenced by social, economic and demographic factors while the total size of a population and its characteristics are in effect largely a reflection of what pertains at the household level (GSS: Eastern Regional Report PHC 2010).

The household is recognized as the logical population unit for analyzing home ownership and other aspects of housing and the family is acknowledged as the basic economic and social unit of any population. Household formation is distinguished in Ghana based on the nuclear and extended family system. The former consists of the father, mother and children whether adopted or biological and the extended family is structured around the parents, siblings and other relatives.

The 2010 PHC defines a household as a person or a group of persons, who lived together in the same house or compound and share the same house-keeping arrangements and constitute a single consumption unit. Household members are not necessarily related by blood or marriage because friends and hired domestic workers may also be part of households.

The information on households basically includes household structure, composition, and relationship to head of household. The head of the household provides (or is assumed to do so) for the daily running of the household and ensures that the needs and welfare of members are provided.

3.2 Household Size, Structure and Composition

3.2.1 Household size

In total there is a household population of 107,095 in the Municipality with an average household size per house of 1.7 which is higher than the regional average of 1.5. The average household per house in urban is 2.3 and that of the rural is 1.3. The population per house in the Municipal is 6.8 and average household size is 4.0. The average household size in the urban (3.7 persons per household) is lower than the rural (4.5 persons per household) areas.

Table 3.1: Household size by type of locality

Categories	Region	District	Urban	Rural
Total household population	2,574,549	107,095	53,639	53,456
Number of households	632,045	26,752	14,717	12,035
Average households per house	1.5	1.7	2.3	1.3
Average household size	4.2	4.0	3.7	4.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.2 Household composition

Table 3.2 shows household composition and sex. A greater proportion (41.7%) of the households members are children (son/daughter). The Table indicates that 25.0 percent of

household members are household heads. The proportion of male heads (30.5%) is higher than female heads (19.9%). The proportion of male children (44.3%) is higher than female children (39.3%). Grandchildren constitute 10.0 percent of household population. The least is adopted/fostered children which is just 0.3 percent of the household population.

Table 3.2: Household population by composition and sex

Household composition	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	107,095	100.0	51,616	100.0	55,479	100.0
Head	26,753	25.0	15,720	30.5	11,033	19.9
Spouse (wife/husband)	11,328	10.6	1,476	2.9	9,852	17.8
Child (son/daughter)	44,671	41.7	22,873	44.3	21,798	39.3
Parent/parent in-law	1,008	0.9	173	0.3	835	1.5
Son/daughter in-law	550	0.5	109	0.2	441	0.8
Grandchild	10,760	10.0	5,361	10.4	5,399	9.7
Brother/sister	3,385	3.2	1,882	3.6	1,503	2.7
Step child	707	0.7	331	0.6	376	0.7
Adopted/foster child	315	0.3	169	0.3	146	0.3
Other relative	5,885	5.5	2,654	5.1	3,231	5.8
Non-relative	1,733	1.6	868	1.7	865	1.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.3 Household structure

The household population by structure and sex are shown in table 3.3. More than a half (51.4%) of the population in the Municipality live in extended family households while those who live in the nuclear family households constitute 48.6 percent. Almost a third (29.3%) of the household is consist of the nuclear family (head, spouse and children) comprises t. It is an indication that many people in the municipal practice the nuclear family system compared to the extended family which forms 19.5 percent of the household structure. It can also be observed from the table that, almost 30 percent of the households in the municipality is either single parent nuclear (12.5%) or single parent extended (16.4%) of the household structure. This could be attributed to the incidence of divorce or separation between partners, migration or immigration and death.

Table 3.3: Household structure by sex

Household structure	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	107,095	100.0	51,616	100.0	55,479	100.0
Nuclear family	52,132	48.6	26,533	51.4	25,599	46.1
Head only	5,355	5.0	3,519	6.8	1,836	3.3
Head and a spouse only	1,958	1.8	980	1.9	978	1.8
Single parent Nuclear	13,418	12.5	5,624	10.9	7,794	14.0
Nuclear (Head spouse(s) children)	31,401	29.3	16,410	31.8	14,991	27.0
Extended family	54,963	51.3	25,083	48.7	29,880	53.9
Extended (Head spouse(s) children Head's relatives)	21,146	19.7	10,393	20.1	10,753	19.4
Extended + non relatives	1,631	1.5	802	1.6	829	1.5
Head spouse(s) and other composition	3,940	3.7	1,967	3.8	1,973	3.6
Single parent Extended	17,541	16.4	6,891	13.4	10,650	19.2
Single parent Extended + non relative	1,269	1.2	556	1.1	713	1.3
Head and other composition but no spouse	9,436	8.8	4,474	8.7	4,962	8.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3 Marital Characteristics

This section presents information on the marital status of the population 12 years and older by age, sex and level of education. There are 73,730 people aged 12 years and older with 43.3 percent married and 38.9 percent never married. The proportion in consensual union is 5.5 percent and forms a small percentage and those who were formerly in a marital union (widowed, divorced, separated) constitute 12.3 percent (Table 3.1).

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	73,730	100.0	38.9	5.5	43.3	2.4	4.4	5.5
12-14	7,861	100.0	94.4	0.5	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	11,408	100.0	90.0	2.8	6.7	0.1	0.2	0.1
20 - 24	8,682	100.0	63.3	9.6	25.0	1.2	0.7	0.2
25 - 29	7,610	100.0	37.2	10.9	47.5	2.0	1.9	0.6
30 - 34	6,498	100.0	18.5	9.9	63.7	3.5	3.5	1.0
35 - 39	6,047	100.0	9.4	7.3	71.6	3.6	5.9	2.2
40 - 44	5,360	100.0	5.4	5.9	74.5	4.1	7.0	3.2
45 - 49	4,638	100.0	4.1	5.1	71.6	4.7	8.6	6.0
50 - 54	4,237	100.0	3.3	3.2	70.0	4.6	10.6	8.3
55 - 59	2,978	100.0	2.0	3.4	66.5	4.9	11.5	11.7
60 - 64	2,516	100.0	2.4	2.1	62.0	3.9	10.5	19.0
65+	5,895	100.0	3.2	1.5	45.9	3.2	9.7	36.5
Male								
Total	34,492	100.0	45.9	4.8	42.6	1.9	3.1	1.6
12-14	4,101	100.0	94.2	0.5	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	5,765	100.0	93.9	0.9	4.9	0.1	0.1	0.1
20 - 24	3,859	100.0	80.3	5.8	13.1	0.4	0.4	0.1
25 - 29	3,274	100.0	53.3	9.6	34.8	1.1	0.9	0.3
30 - 34	2,936	100.0	27.0	10.1	57.5	3.0	2.2	0.2
35 - 39	2,733	100.0	13.0	8.2	71.2	3.1	3.7	0.9
40 - 44	2,534	100.0	7.1	6.6	76.4	3.6	5.3	1.0
45 - 49	2,159	100.0	5.6	6.1	75.2	4.4	6.3	2.5
50 - 54	1,953	100.0	4.3	3.7	78.5	3.4	7.6	2.4
55 - 59	1,465	100.0	2.1	4.4	77.9	4.3	7.8	3.4
60 - 64	1,231	100.0	3.1	3.1	75.9	3.6	9.7	4.7
65+	2,482	100.0	4.1	2.4	70.8	3.1	8.5	11.2
Female								
Total	39,238	100.0	32.8	6.1	43.9	2.8	5.4	8.9
12-14	3,760	100.0	94.6	0.6	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	5,643	100.0	86.1	4.7	8.5	0.2	0.3	0.2
20 - 24	4,823	100.0	49.6	12.6	34.5	1.8	1.0	0.4
25 - 29	4,336	100.0	25.1	11.9	57.1	2.6	2.6	0.8
30 - 34	3,562	100.0	11.5	9.7	68.7	3.9	4.6	1.7
35 - 39	3,314	100.0	6.4	6.6	71.9	4.0	7.7	3.3
40 - 44	2,826	100.0	3.8	5.2	72.7	4.6	8.5	5.2
45 - 49	2,479	100.0	2.7	4.3	68.4	5.0	10.6	9.0
50 - 54	2,284	100.0	2.5	2.8	62.7	5.6	13.1	13.3
55 - 59	1,513	100.0	1.9	2.4	55.5	5.4	15.0	19.8
60 - 64	1,285	100.0	1.8	1.2	48.7	4.3	11.4	32.7
65+	3,413	100.0	2.5	0.9	27.7	3.2	10.6	55.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3.1 Marital status and level of education

The distribution of the population aged 12 years and older by sex, marital status and level of education is presented in Table 3.5. In 2010, 75.4 percent of the population who had completed basic education had never married. The data also shows that among those who were living in informal/consensual unions, 72.6 percent had completed the basic level while 17.0 percent had no education. Among those married, it could be observed that quite a sizeable proportion of 63.9 percent had only completed basic level education whilst 22.3 percent had no education. This trend is same among those separated or divorced. Concerning those widowed, 59.2 percent had no education while 36.0 percent had completed the basic level.

Females aged 12 years and older outnumber their male cohorts in the municipal. As shown, from the basic level, the proportion of persons completing subsequent higher levels of education seems to drop progressively.

Table 3.5: Marital status and population 12 years and older by sex and level of education

Sex/Marital status	Number	All levels	No Education	Basic ¹	Secondary ²	Voc/tech/comm	Post middle/secondary certificate/diploma ³	Tertiary ⁴
Both Sexes								
Total	73,730	100.0	18.0	67.1	9.1	1.7	3.2	1.0
Never married	28,707	100.0	5.5	75.4	14.7	1.0	2.5	0.8
Informal/consensual union/living together	4,042	100.0	17.0	72.6	7.0	1.2	2.0	0.3
Married	31,933	100.0	22.3	63.9	6.2	2.3	4.0	1.4
Separated	1,776	100.0	28.2	62.8	4.2	1.7	2.1	1.0
Divorced	3,212	100.0	30.4	58.9	4.1	3.0	3.5	0.2
Widowed	4,060	100.0	59.2	36.0	1.2	1.2	2.3	0.1
Male								
Total	34,492	100.0	11.1	70.3	11.2	1.8	4.1	1.5
Never married	15,819	100.0	5.2	75.6	14.9	0.8	2.6	1.0
Informal/consensual union/living together	1,665	100.0	11.2	73.5	10.0	1.6	3.3	0.5
Married	14,706	100.0	15.1	65.5	8.4	2.7	5.9	2.3
Separated	662	100.0	20.8	67.2	5.0	2.0	2.7	2.3
Divorced	1,078	100.0	21.3	64.1	6.5	3.2	4.6	0.3
Widowed	562	100.0	39.1	51.8	3.0	2.0	3.4	0.7
Female								
Total	39,238	100.0	24.1	64.2	7.3	1.6	2.3	0.5
Never married	12,888	100.0	5.9	75.1	14.6	1.3	2.5	0.5
Informal/consensual union/living together	2,377	100.0	21.0	72.0	4.8	1.0	1.1	0.1
Married	17,227	100.0	28.4	62.5	4.2	1.9	2.4	0.6
Separated	1,114	100.0	32.6	60.2	3.7	1.5	1.7	0.3
Divorced	2,134	100.0	35.1	56.2	2.9	2.9	2.9	0.1
Widowed	3,498	100.0	62.4	33.5	0.9	1.1	2.2	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

This situation seems quite profound between the basic and secondary levels. For instance, among the proportion of males who had never married, 75.6 percent had completed the basic level while it is only 14.9 percent had completed the secondary level. Almost 66 percent (65.5%) of married males had completed the basic level while (8.4%) had completed the secondary level. The situation is not different for females who are married. It could also be observed that a higher proportion of married males (2.3%) complete the tertiary level compared to married females (0.6%).

3.3.2 Marital status by economic activity

Table 3.6 shows marital status of persons 12 years and older by sex and economic activity status. In the municipality, high proportion of the never married (61.6%) are economically not active, 34.5 percent are employed and 3.9 percent are unemployed. The proportion of persons who are married and employed constitutes 83.5 percent which is the highest amongst all categories of marital statuses who are employed. A high proportion of persons who are widowed (40.3%) are economically not active, whilst 58.4 percent are employed. Never married males who are employed (38.2%) are more than the never married females (30%). Of the married males, 86.9 percent are employed, 1.6 percent are unemployed and 11.5 percent are economically not active. In the female category, the proportion of persons who are married and employed represent 80.5 percent, 3.1 percent are unemployed and 16.4 percent are economically not active.

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

Sex/Marital Status	All status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	73,730	100.0	46,031	62.4	2,240	3.0	25,459	34.5
Never married	28,707	100.0	9,907	34.5	1,116	3.9	17,684	61.6
Informal/consensual union/living together	4,042	100.0	3,219	79.6	162	4.0	661	16.4
Married	31,933	100.0	26,653	83.5	771	2.4	4,509	14.1
Separated	1,776	100.0	1,367	77.0	58	3.3	351	19.8
Divorced	3,212	100.0	2,518	78.4	77	2.4	617	19.2
Widowed	4,060	100.0	2,367	58.3	56	1.4	1,637	40.3
Male								
Total	34,492	100.0	22,103	64.1	906	2.6	11,483	33.3
Never married	15,819	100.0	6,040	38.2	605	3.8	9,174	58.0
Informal/consensual union/living together	1,665	100.0	1,480	88.9	38	2.3	147	8.8
Married	14,706	100.0	12,785	86.9	235	1.6	1,686	11.5
Separated	662	100.0	568	85.8	7	1.1	87	13.1
Divorced	1,078	100.0	860	79.8	14	1.3	204	18.9
Widowed	562	100.0	370	65.8	7	1.2	185	32.9
Female								
Total	39,238	100.0	23,928	61.0	1,334	3.4	13,976	35.6
Never married	12,888	100.0	3,867	30.0	511	4.0	8,510	66.0
Informal/consensual union/living together	2,377	100.0	1,739	73.2	124	5.2	514	21.6
Married	17,227	100.0	13,868	80.5	536	3.1	2,823	16.4
Separated	1,114	100.0	799	71.7	51	4.6	264	23.7
Divorced	2,134	100.0	1,658	77.7	63	3.0	413	19.4
Widowed	3,498	100.0	1,997	57.1	49	1.4	1,452	41.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.4 Nationality

Table 3.7 shows population by nationality and sex of the district. It can be observed from the table that the municipal has a population of 108,298, out which 103,959 (96.0%) are Ghanaians by birth. The proportion of males (95.9%) who are Ghanaians by birth is less than their female (96.1%) counterparts. About two percent of the population has dual nationality which implies that they own Ghanaian citizenship and the same time having another nationality elsewhere. Ghanaian by naturalization also constitutes approximately one percent which implies that 0.6 percent of the population enumerated in the Municipal who were formerly foreigners have switched their nationality to become Ghanaians. ECOWAS, Africa other than ECOWAS and others also constitute 1.1 percent, 0.3 percent and 0.2 percent respectively.

Table 3.7: Population by nationality and sex

Nationality	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	108,298	100.0	52,208	100.0	56,090	100.0
Ghanaian by birth	103,959	96.0	50,059	95.9	53,900	96.1
Dual nationality (Ghanaian and Other)	2,036	1.9	991	1.9	1,045	1.9
Ghanaian by naturalization	620	0.6	298	0.6	322	0.6
ECOWAS	1,157	1.1	610	1.2	547	1.0
African other than ECOWAS	317	0.3	140	0.3	177	0.3
Other	209	0.2	110	0.2	99	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.5 Religious Affiliation

Table 3.8 shows population by religion and sex in the district. It can be seen from the Table that West Akim Municipal is predominantly Christians (81.6%) comprising 38.8 percent Pentecostal/Charismatic, 21.3 percent Protestant (Anglican, Presbyterian, Methodist, Lutheran etc.), 17.2 percent other Christians and 4.3 percent Catholic. About 9 percent (8.6%) of the population have no religion. Islam on the other hand also constitutes 8.5 percent and traditionalist accounted for 1.0 percent. Also there is female dominance over the male in all the Christianity categories except Catholic where the males dominate females. There are more males than females in both Islam and Traditional religion.

Table 3.8: Population by religion and sex

Religion	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	108,298	100.0	52,208	100.0	56,090	100.0
No religion	9,335	8.6	5,740	11.0	3,595	6.4
Catholic	4,631	4.3	2,380	4.6	2,251	4.0
Protestants (Anglican Lutheran etc.)	23,094	21.3	10,779	20.6	12,315	22.0
Pentecostal/Charismatic	41,995	38.8	19,002	36.4	22,993	41.0
Other Christian	18,643	17.2	8,789	16.8	9,854	17.6
Islam	9,181	8.5	4,778	9.2	4,403	7.8
Traditionalist	1,052	1.0	571	1.1	481	0.9
Other	367	0.3	169	0.3	198	0.4

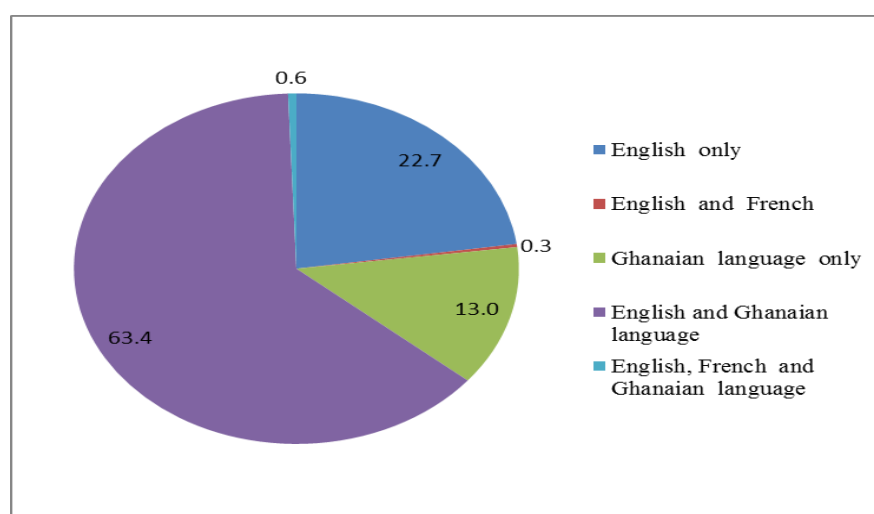
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6 Literacy and Education

3.6.1 Population 11 years and older by literacy status

Figure 3.1 shows the population 11 years and older by literacy status. It can be observed that 63.4 percent of the population 11 years and older are literate in both English and Ghanaian language constituting the highest proportion in the municipal. This is followed by those who are literate in English language only (22.7%) and the population who are literate in Ghanaian language only constituting 13.0 percent. However the literate population in both English and French (0.3%) and English, French and Ghanaian language (0.6%) constitute a smaller proportion of less than one percent of the population 11 years and older in the municipal.

Figure 3.1: Population 11 years and older by literacy status



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6.2 Level of education and school attendance and sex

Table 3.9 shows the population three years and older by level of education, school attendance and sex. Approximately half of the population is currently in primary school (49.6%), with almost the same percentage of males (49.8%) and females (49.4%) currently in primary school. This is followed by JSS/JHS (18.9%) with male percentage (19.1) slightly more than the female percentage (18.7%). However there is a higher percentage of male population in all but two levels of education (Vocational/Technical/Commercial and Post middle/secondary certificate) as indicated by the table.

The Table also shows the population three years and older who have attended school in the past. A total of 43,406 of the population three years and older have attended school in the past with more females (21,939) than males (21,467). Majority of the population who attended school in the past have attained JSS/JHS (31.7%) with female (34.4%) percentage greater than males (28.9%). This is followed by population who has attended Middle school (29.4%) with the male (33.0%) population edging the female (25.9%). This trend is common through to the tertiary level. More females seemed to drop out of school as the educational level went higher among the population attended school in the past.

Table 3.9: 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	39,688	100.0	20,823	100.0	18,865	100.0	43,406	100.0	21,467	100.0	21,939	100.0
Nursery	2,590	6.5	1,334	6.4	1,256	6.7	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0
Kindergarten	6,565	16.5	3,349	16.1	3,216	17.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0
Primary	19,684	49.6	10,370	49.8	9,314	49.4	9,216	21.2	3,566	16.6	5,650	25.8
JSS/JHS	7,513	18.9	3,976	19.1	3,537	18.7	13,743	31.7	6,188	28.8	7,555	34.4
Middle	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	12,758	29.4	7,077	33.0	5,681	25.9
SSS/SHS	2,678	6.7	1,465	7.0	1,213	6.4	2,818	6.5	1,520	7.1	1,298	5.9
Secondary	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	1,240	2.9	892	4.2	348	1.6
Vocational/technical/commercial	103	0.3	37	0.2	66	0.3	1,145	2.6	576	2.7	569	2.6
Post middle/secondary certificate	160	0.4	68	0.3	92	0.5	997	2.3	591	2.8	406	1.9
Tertiary	395	1.0	224	1.1	171	0.9	1,489	3.4	1,057	4.9	432	2.0

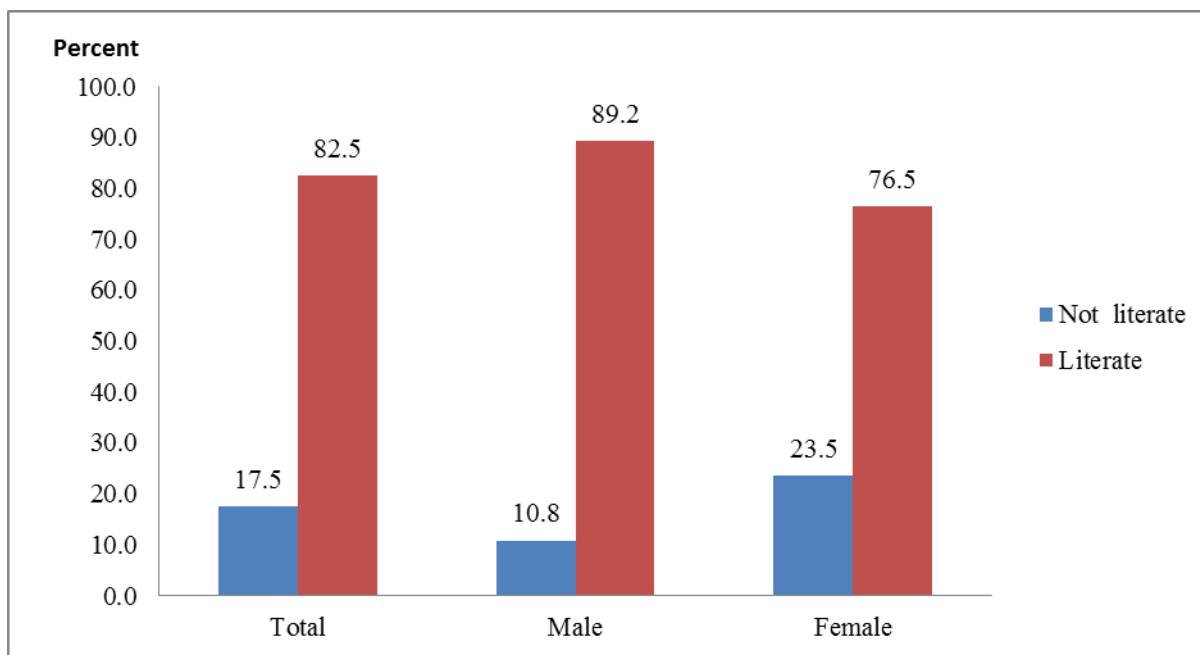
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6.3 Literacy status by sex

Figure 3.2 shows population 11years and older by sex, age and literacy status. It can be observed that 82.5 percent are literate while 17.5 percent are not literate in the Municipality.

The figure again indicates that 89.2 percent of the male population is literate while almost 11 percent (10.8%) are illiterate. Again, figure 3.4 indicates that, almost 77 percent (76.5%) of the total female population in the Municipality are literate while almost 24 percent (23.5%) are illiterate.

Figure 3.2: Population 11 years and older by literacy status and sex



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6.4 Literacy status by age

It is observed that the age group 65 and older are the most illiterate in the municipality recording 3,452 (25.8 %). The age group 11-14 years recorded the lowest of 259 (1.93 %). The literate population is dominated by the age group 15-19 years recording 10,967 (17.4 %) and followed by age group 11-14 years also recording 10,066 (16.0 %). The age group 60-64 years recorded the lowest of 1,590 (2.5 %).

Table 3.10: Population 11 years and older by sex, age and literacy status

	None (not literate)	Literate	English only	Ghanaian language only	English and Ghanaian language	English and French	English, French and Ghanaian language
Total	13,367	62,827	14,292	8,154	39,824	181	376
11-14	259	10,066	3,120	927	5,956	22	41
15-19	441	10,967	2,572	722	7,572	20	81
20-24	677	8,005	1,902	748	5,279	31	45
25-29	959	6,651	1,599	891	4,083	29	49
30-34	1,096	5,402	1,266	866	3,221	16	33
35-39	1,234	4,813	1,079	936	2,740	25	33
40-44	1,237	4,123	776	798	2,508	13	28
45-49	1,138	3,500	643	646	2,186	5	20
50-54	1,152	3,085	468	516	2,076	6	19
55-59	796	2,182	330	383	1,455	4	10
60-64	926	1,590	180	281	1,120	3	6
65+	3,452	2,443	357	440	1,628	7	11
Male	3,863	31,878	7,049	3,270	21,240	112	207
11-14	121	5,229	1,675	439	3,079	14	22
15-19	172	5,593	1,309	346	3,900	9	29
20-24	217	3,642	807	271	2,528	12	24
25-29	272	3,002	661	303	1,988	20	30
30-34	301	2,635	573	327	1,700	13	22
35-39	317	2,416	520	387	1,470	18	21
40-44	341	2,193	418	307	1,440	10	18
45-49	347	1,812	358	235	1,206	1	12
50-54	306	1,647	237	199	1,193	4	14
55-59	249	1,216	183	147	876	4	6
60-64	267	964	112	129	719	1	3
65+	953	1,529	196	180	1,141	6	6
Female	9,504	30,949	7,243	4,884	18,584	69	169
11-14	138	4,837	1,445	488	2,877	8	19
15-19	269	5,374	1,263	376	3,672	11	52
20-24	460	4,363	1,095	477	2,751	19	21
25-29	687	3,649	938	588	2,095	9	19
30-34	795	2,767	693	539	1,521	3	11
35-39	917	2,397	559	549	1,270	7	12
40-44	896	1,930	358	491	1,068	3	10
45-49	791	1,688	285	411	980	4	8
50-54	846	1,438	231	317	883	2	5
55-59	547	966	147	236	579	-	4
60-64	659	626	68	152	401	2	3
65+	2,499	914	161	260	487	1	5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FOUR

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

4.1 Introduction

The economic activity of the population is important for development planning and policy implementation. It is also development indicator that is largely determined by how government is able to manage their population and resource distribution in order to provide the needs of the citizen and thereby achieve their human development goals.

The economic characteristics of the population also help in examining population and development interrelationship so that appropriate policies can be adopted. Population and development interrelationship has been a major area of research and policy concern in developing countries, including Ghana. Rapid population increase compound economic stagnation and associated unemployment problems. The various international conferences on population and development are indications of the importance of the subject to the international community.

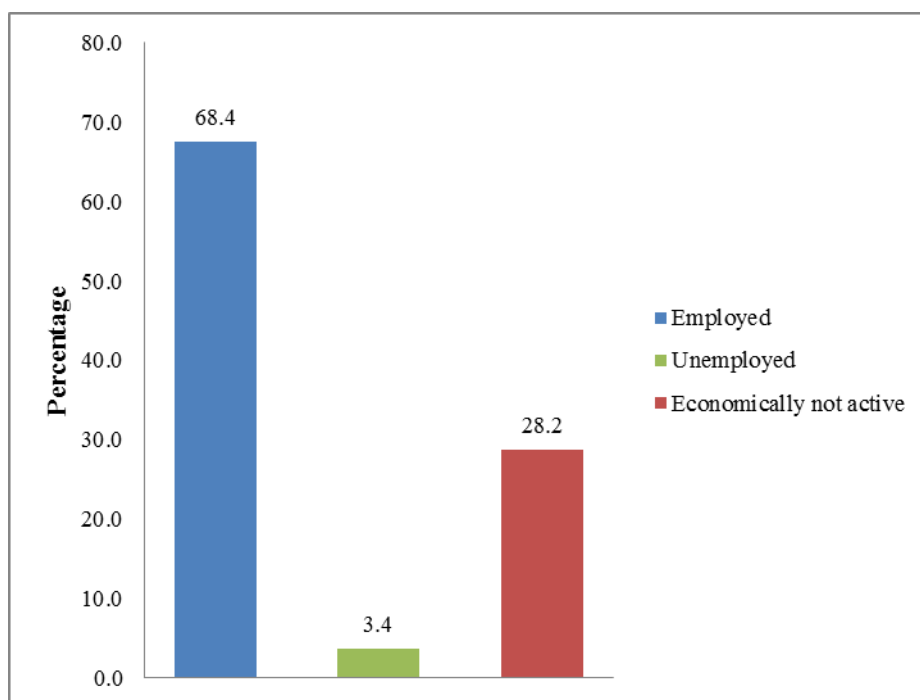
It is against this background that the economic characteristic of the population of the West Akim Municipal is examined in this chapter. The areas of focus include economic activity status, employment status and unemployment characteristics of the total population in the municipality. All the characteristics are examined with respect to age, sex and residential status which are background characteristics that determine the economic activity and employment status of individuals and population subgroups.

4.2 Economic 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 15 years and older.

Figure 4.1 shows the population 15 years and above by economic activity status in West Akim Municipal. The figure reveals that, among the population 15 years and older, 71.8 percent are economically active (that is a combination of employed and unemployed population) with 68.4 percent being employed and 3.4 percent being unemployed. However 28.2 percent of the population 15 years and older are economically not active.

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



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.2.1 Economically active by sex

Table 4.1 gives a general indication that more females (24,868) than males (22,428) are economically active. The table further shows that more of the female population were employed and worked compared to the male population at the time of the census. Of the total population of 108,298 enumerated in the Municipality, 65,869 represent population 15 years and older years of which almost 72 percent (71.8%) are economically active. For the sexes, more males (73.8%) than females (70.1%) are economically active. Almost five percent (4.7%) of the economically active population is unemployed. At the same time, there are more females (5.3%) than males (4.0%) who are unemployed.

4.2.2 Economically not active by sex

Almost a third (28.2%) of the population 15 years and older are economically not active with the percentage higher for the females (29.9%) than for the males (26.2%). The percentage of males who are not economically active because they are in full time education is 57.8 percent higher than their females counterpart which is 36.0 percent. But the percentage is higher for the females (32.0%) than for the males (14.3%) who are economically not active because they did home duties or house chores.

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

Activity status	Both Sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	65,869	100.0	30,391	100.0	35,478	100.0
Economically active	47,296	71.8	22,428	73.8	24,868	70.1
Employed	45,077	95.3	21,529	96.0	23,548	94.7
<i>Worked</i>	43,380	96.2	20,927	97.2	22,453	95.3
<i>Did not work but had job to go back to</i>	1,565	3.5	541	2.5	1,024	4.3
<i>Did voluntary work without pay</i>	132	0.3	61	0.3	71	0.3
Unemployed	2,219	4.7	899	4.0	1,320	5.3
<i>Worked before, seeking work and available</i>	748	33.7	256	28.5	492	37.3
<i>Seeking work for the first time and available</i>	1,471	66.3	643	71.5	828	62.7
Economically not active	18,573	28.2	7,963	26.2	10,610	29.9
Did home duties (household chore)	4,536	24.4	1,139	14.3	3,397	32.0
Full time education	8,426	45.4	4,604	57.8	3,822	36.0
Pensioner/retired	691	3.7	482	6.1	209	2.0
Disabled/sick	1,255	6.8	480	6.0	775	7.3
Too old/young	2,341	12.6	625	7.8	1,716	16.2
Other	1,324	7.1	633	7.9	691	6.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.2.3 Unemployment status by age and sex

Table 4.2 shows the population 15 years and above by age group, sex and activity status in the West Akim Municipal. It is observed from Table 4.2 that, 68.4 percent of the population 15 years and older are employed, 3.4 percent are unemployed and the remaining 28.2 percent are economically not active.

For the age groups, the proportion employed is highest (90.9%) for the age group 40-44 years followed by 45-49 years (90.7%). The least is 22.9 percent for 15-19 years age group. The proportion unemployed is highest for age group 20-24 years (8.4%). The proportion of persons economically not active is highest (48.5%) for age group 65 years and above.

Employment varies for the sexes. Proportion employed is 70.8 percent higher for the males compared to 66.8 percent for the females. At the same time, there are more females (3.7%) than males (3.0 %) unemployed.

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

Sex/Age group	All status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	65,869	100.0	45,077	68.4	2,219	3.4	18,573	28.2
15-19	11,408	100.0	2,616	22.9	350	3.1	8,442	74.0
20-24	8,682	100.0	4,991	57.5	727	8.4	2,964	34.1
25-29	7,610	100.0	6,026	79.2	406	5.3	1,178	15.5
30-34	6,498	100.0	5,588	86.0	235	3.6	675	10.4
35-39	6,047	100.0	5,404	89.4	143	2.4	500	8.3
40-44	5,360	100.0	4,870	90.9	101	1.9	389	7.3
45-49	4,638	100.0	4,208	90.7	82	1.8	348	7.5
50-54	4,237	100.0	3,800	89.7	58	1.4	379	8.9
55-59	2,978	100.0	2,641	88.7	35	1.2	302	10.1
60-64	2,516	100.0	1,920	76.3	60	2.4	536	21.3
65+	5,895	100.0	3,013	51.1	22	0.4	2,860	48.5
Male								
Total	30,391	100.0	21,529	70.8	899	3.0	7,963	26.2
15-19	5,765	100.0	1,380	23.9	138	2.4	4,247	73.7
20-24	3,859	100.0	2,225	57.7	305	7.9	1,329	34.4
25-29	3,274	100.0	2,703	82.6	175	5.3	396	12.1
30-34	2,936	100.0	2,653	90.4	93	3.2	190	6.5
35-39	2,733	100.0	2,525	92.4	49	1.8	159	5.8
40-44	2,534	100.0	2,388	94.2	38	1.5	108	4.3
45-49	2,159	100.0	2,020	93.6	29	1.3	110	5.1
50-54	1,953	100.0	1,802	92.3	27	1.4	124	6.3
55-59	1,465	100.0	1,332	90.9	12	0.8	121	8.3
60-64	1,231	100.0	976	79.3	29	2.4	226	18.4
65+	2,482	100.0	1,525	61.4	4	0.2	953	38.4
Female								
Total	35,478	100.0	23,548	66.4	1,320	3.7	10,610	29.9
15-19	5,643	100.0	1,236	21.9	212	3.8	4,195	74.3
20-24	4,823	100.0	2,766	57.4	422	8.7	1,635	33.9
25-29	4,336	100.0	3,323	76.6	231	5.3	782	18.0
30-34	3,562	100.0	2,935	82.4	142	4.0	485	13.6
35-39	3,314	100.0	2,879	86.9	94	2.8	341	10.3
40-44	2,826	100.0	2,482	87.8	63	2.2	281	9.9
45-49	2,479	100.0	2,188	88.3	53	2.1	238	9.6
50-54	2,284	100.0	1,998	87.5	31	1.4	255	11.2
55-59	1,513	100.0	1,309	86.5	23	1.5	181	12.0
60-64	1,285	100.0	944	73.5	31	2.4	310	24.1
65+	3,413	100.0	1,488	43.6	18	0.5	1,907	55.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.3 Occupation

Table 4.3 shows employed population 15 years and older by occupation and sex. As indicated in the Table, 43.8 percent of the employed population are skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers. This confirms that, the West Akim Municipal economy is agrarian.

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	45,077	100.0	21,529	100.0	23,548	100.0
Managers	889	2.0	319	1.5	570	2.4
Professionals	2,359	5.2	1,395	6.5	964	4.1
Technicians and associate professionals	726	1.6	497	2.3	229	1.0
Clerical support workers	349	0.8	229	1.1	120	0.5
Service and sales workers	9,053	20.1	1,610	7.5	7,443	31.6
Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers	19,731	43.8	11,514	53.5	8,217	34.9
Craft and related trades workers	6,964	15.4	3,007	14.0	3,957	16.8
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	2,573	5.7	2,368	11.0	205	0.9
Elementary occupations	2,413	5.4	574	2.7	1,839	7.8
Other occupations	20	0.0	16	0.1	4	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Second is the service and sales workers representing 20.1 percent. Those involve in other occupations are the least in the Municipality. The skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers are 53.5 males and 34.9 percent females. However the percentage is 56.2 percent higher for females in the service and sales, craft and related trades and elementary occupations than for the males (24.2%). This confirmed the conventional dominance of females in the petty trading industry as compared to males.

4.4 Industry

Table 4.4 shows the employed population 15 years and above by industry and sex in the municipality. Of the 45,077 population interviewed in this category, 21,529 are males representing 47.8 percent and 23,548 are females representing 52.2 percent.

The data (table 4.4,) shows that 44.6 percent of the populations are into agriculture forestry and fishing industry. Out of this, 54.8 percent are males and 35.3 percent females. This is followed by wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicle and motorcycles (19.1%) of which 9.3 percent are males and 28.2 percent are females. It shows the dominance of females in this industry

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	45,077	100.0	21,529	100.0	23,548	100.0
Agriculture forestry and fishing	20,105	44.6	11,800	54.8	8,305	35.3
Mining and quarrying	769	1.7	595	2.8	174	0.7
Manufacturing	4,708	10.4	1,548	7.2	3,160	13.4
Electricity gas steam and air conditioning supply	49	0.1	40	0.2	9	0.0
Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities	60	0.1	32	0.1	28	0.1
Construction	863	1.9	842	3.9	21	0.1
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	8,628	19.1	1,996	9.3	6,632	28.2
Transportation and storage	1,647	3.7	1,598	7.4	49	0.2
Accommodation and food service activities	2,311	5.1	151	0.7	2,160	9.2
Information and communication	52	0.1	46	0.2	6	0.0
Financial and insurance activities	132	0.3	86	0.4	46	0.2
Real estate activities	5	0.0	3	0.0	2	0.0
Professional scientific and technical activities	602	1.3	252	1.2	350	1.5
Administrative and support service activities	217	0.5	154	0.7	63	0.3
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	377	0.8	278	1.3	99	0.4
Education	1,820	4.0	989	4.6	831	3.5
Human health and social work activities	435	1.0	201	0.9	234	1.0
Arts entertainment and recreation	222	0.5	186	0.9	36	0.2
Other service activities	1,853	4.1	624	2.9	1,229	5.2
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods -and services-producing activities of households for own use	222	0.5	108	0.5	114	0.5
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The real estate activities and activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies recorded the lowest employment in the industry sector in the municipality. The rest of the industries employed 32.0 percent in the municipality.

4.5 Employment Status

Table 4.5 shows population 15 years and above by employment status and sex. It is observed that out of the total population of 108,298 who were enumerated in the West Akim Municipality, 45,077 (41.6%) are employed with the males constituting 47.8 percent and the females also constituting 52.2 percent.

Self-employed without employees are the highest proportion of employment status equating to 70.6 percent. This is followed by those who are employees constituting 13.0 percent.

Those in “others” category recorded the lowest of 0.1 percent. Again, those “contributing family worker” are almost eight (7.9%).

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	45,077	100.0	21,529	100.0	23,548	100.0
Employee	5,864	13.0	3,915	18.2	1,949	8.3
Self-employed without employee(s)	31,814	70.6	14,211	66.0	17,603	74.8
Self-employed with employee(s)	1,777	3.9	982	4.6	795	3.4
Casual worker	784	1.7	509	2.4	275	1.2
Contributing family worker	3,567	7.9	1,366	6.3	2,201	9.3
Apprentice	1,012	2.2	418	1.9	594	2.5
Domestic employee (House help)	214	0.5	107	0.5	107	0.5
Other	45	0.1	21	0.1	24	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

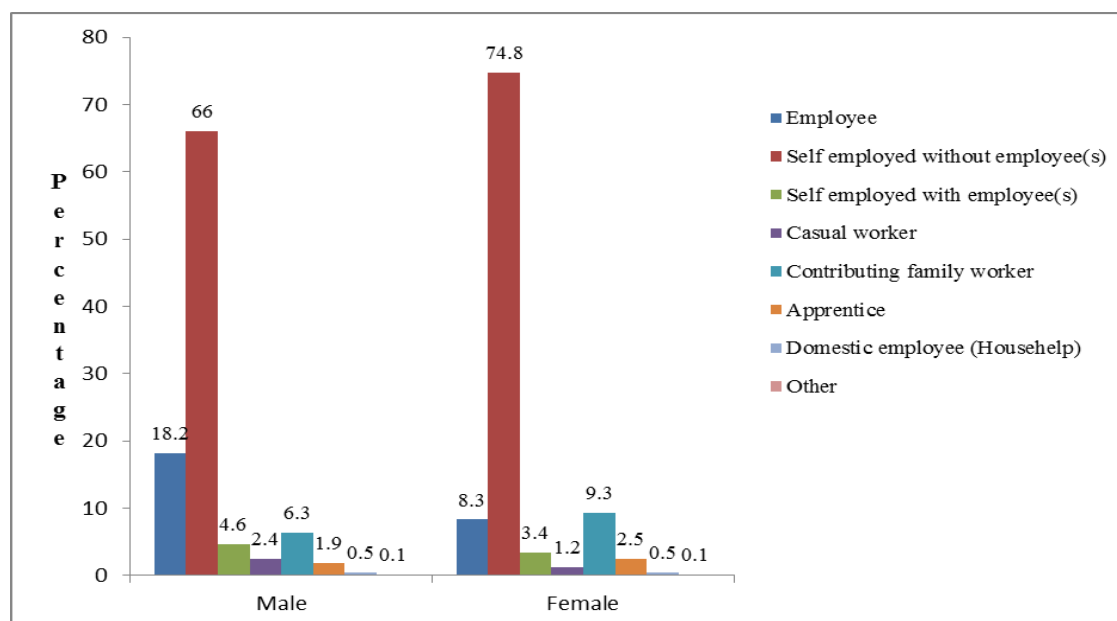
4.5.1 Status in employment by sex

As indicated by Figure 4.2, the economically active populations in the Municipality are self-employed with no employees, of whom 66.0 percent are males and 74.8 percent are females.

The second largest category is employees, of whom 18.2 percent are males and 8.3 percent are females. Apart from those in contributory family worker category that constitute a sizeable proportion, 6.3 percent represent the males and 9.3 percent represent the females.

Those in the category of self-employed with employees also contribute significant proportion in the municipality of whom 4.6 percent represent the males and 3.4 percent represent the females. This is followed by those in the apprenticeship, where males are 1.9 percent and females are 2.5 percent. The rest of the categories are less than 2.6% in the West Akim Municipality.

Figure 4.2: Employed population 15 years and older by employment status and sex



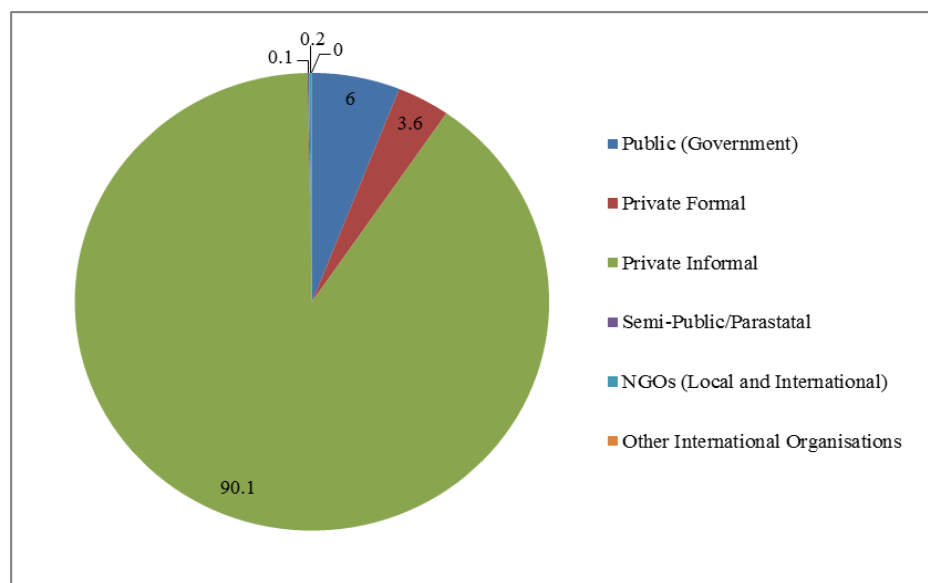
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.6 Employment Sector

Figure 4.3 indicates the sectors of the economically active population 15 years and above. The private informal sector employs approximately 90 percent of workers followed by the public sector (Government) representing 6.0 percent.

Private formal sector constitute approximately four percent (3.6%). However semi-public / parastatal, NGOs and other International organizations constitute an insignificant amount of less than one percent (0.3%) as indicated by figure 4.3.

Figure 4.3: Population 15 years and older by employment Sector



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.6.1 Employment sector and sex

Table 4.6 shows employed population 15 years and older by employment sector and sex. The private informal sector is the highest proportion, as it employs 93.1 percent of the female population and 86.8 percent of male population. The dominance of female could be attributed to the fact that they are mostly engaged in petty trading which formed majority of private informal in the West Akim Municipality. Also the proportion of male population (7.8%) in the public sector (Government) outnumbers the female proportion (4.4%). However semi-public/parastatal, NGOs and other International organizations recorded the lowest among both sexes.

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	45,077	100.0	21,529	100.0	23,548	100.0
Public (Government)	2,713	6.0	1,679	7.8	1,034	4.4
Private Formal	1,629	3.6	1,094	5.1	535	2.3
Private Informal	40,633	90.1	18,710	86.9	21,923	93.1
Semi-Public/Parastatal	29	0.1	12	0.1	17	0.1
NGOs (Local and International)	73	0.2	34	0.2	39	0.2
Other International Organizations	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

The main policy objective for the Information Communication Technology (ICT) in the GSGDA (2010-2013) are promotion of rapid development and deployment of ICT in infrastructure, strengthening of institutional and regulatory framework for managing the ICT sector and the promotion and use of ICT in all sectors of the economy.

Access to information communication technology is essential in increasing people's knowledge and awareness of what is taking place around them even at the global level. The world is now linked together with advanced communication technology and access to information is through the computer, mobile phone and internet facilities which are fast becoming essential for living a meaningful life.

Globally, education or various systems of learning is now based on information and technology. The 2010 population and housing census collected information on mobile phone, ownership internet facility, fixed telephone lines and ownership of desktop or laptop computer.

5.2 Ownership of Mobile Phones

The total population 12 years and above in the Eastern Region that have mobile phones is 44.5 percent. The percentage of the male population that have mobile phone is 49.3 percent higher than the females (40.1%).

However, at the Municipal level, 43.8 percent of the population 12 years and above have mobile phones which are lower than the regional level. The percentage of males that have mobile phone is 48.8 percent compare to those of the females 39.4 percent.

5.3 Usage of Internet Facilities

Three percent of the population in the municipality use internet facility. The proportion of males 12 years and above that use internet facility is 4.8 percent compare to 1.9 percent of females.

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	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	73,730	32,310	43.8	2,403	3.3
Male	34,492	16,844	48.8	1,666	4.8
Female	39,238	15,466	39.4	737	1.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

5.4 Household Ownership of Desktop or Laptop Computers

At the household level, ownership of desktop/laptop was examined to find out the extent to which household members in the Municipal own desktop or laptop computers.

Only 3.9 percent of households own desktop/laptop computers. Out of this, 4.8 percent who own desktop/laptop computers are male headed households compare to 2.6 percent of female headed households.

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

Sex	Number of households	Households having desktop/laptop computers	
		Number	Percent
Total	26,753	1,033	3.9
Male	15,720	749	4.8
Female	11,033	284	2.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER SIX

DISABILITY

6.1 Introduction

Persons with disability can be 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 (2010 PHC).

Persons with disability are usually marginalized as they are often regarded as unproductive, incapable of contributing to society and also stigmatized. They are rather seen as a burden to the family and the society they belong.

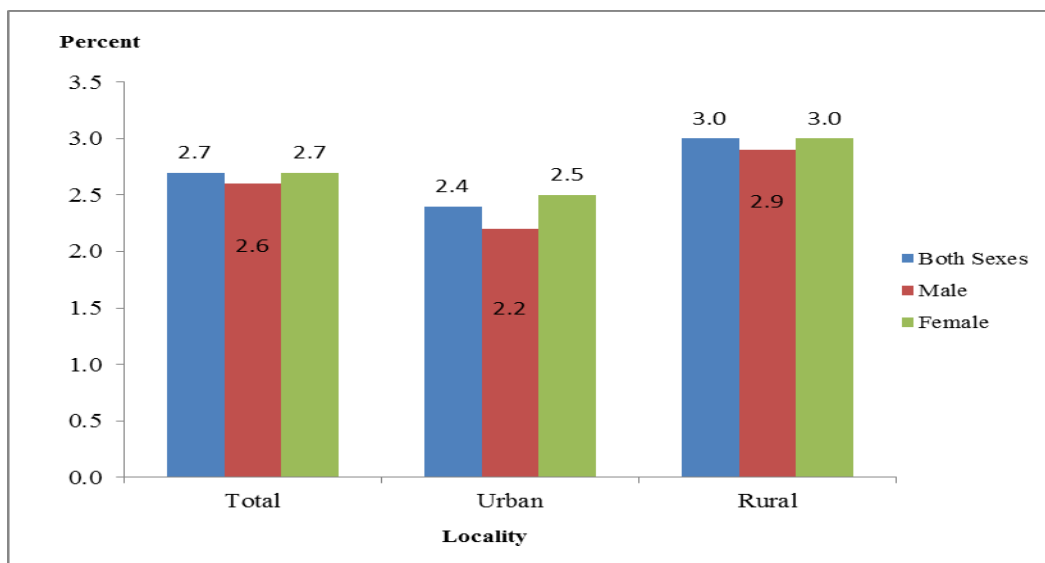
In Ghana, disabled persons constitute an impoverished marginalized group, characterized by lack of access to public health, education, and other social services that would ideally support and protect people with disabilities. Economically as well as in social terms, disabled persons in developing countries are classified among the poorest of the poor. The areas discussed in this chapter are distribution of population with disability, types of disability, disability type by economic activity and disability by type of locality and sex.

6.2 Population with Disability

The proportion of persons with disability to the total population in the Municipality is 3.1 percent which is slightly lower than the regional average of 3.6 percent. Figure 6.1 shows the distribution of the population with disability by sex and locality.

The figure shows that 2.7 percent of the total population in West Akim is disabled. The male population with disability is 2.6 percent and the females constitute 2.7 percent. The proportion of the urban population with disability is 2.4 percent with disability among the female population 2.5 percent higher than the male population which is 2.4 percent. Among the rural population 3.0 percent are disabled. The rural male population with disability is 3.0 percent higher than 2.9 percent of the males that have disability.

Figure 6.1: Distribution of population with disability by sex and locality



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.3 Type of Disability

Six major types of disability was recorded during the 2010 population and housing census. These are sight, hearing, and speech, physical, intellectual and emotional. Out of the 2,898 persons with disability in the Municipality, sight disability forms the highest (35.7%), followed by physical disability (30.8%).

The third highest disability in West Akim Municipality is speech which forms 16.1 percent of disabled population. Again, hearing recorded (13.6%), intellectual (12.4%) in the municipality. However, persons with disability which are unspecified constitutes (10.5%) of the population as shown in Table 6.1.

6.4 Distribution of Population with Disability by Sex and Locality

Table 6.1 shows the population with disability by sex and their location in the West Akim Municipality. The Table indicates that 2.7 percent of the populations in the municipality are with disability. The proportion of female's population with disability is 2.7 percent higher than male's population which is 2.6 percent. Sight is the major disability which affects 35.7 percent of the population in West Akim Municipality. Second is physical disability which affects 30.8 percent of the population followed by speech disability (16.1%) and closely followed by emotional disability (15.8%).

For the sexes, sight is the major disability suffered by both males and females with the percentage higher for the females (36.6%) than for the males (34.8%) Second disability for both males and females is physical disability which affects 31.0 percent of females compare to 30.7 percent of males. The third disability varies between males and females. Speech disability is third for the males (17.7%) while emotional disability is third for the females (16.4%) Sight is again the main disability that affects most people in the urban and rural areas. But the percentage is 38.4 percent higher in rural areas than in urban areas (32.3%) Second is physical disability which affects 31.5 percent of the people in rural areas compare to 30.1 percent in urban areas. Emotional disability is third for urban dwellers and it is suffered by 22.8 percent of the people. But for rural areas speech is third and it affects 15.5 percent of the people more females (39.4%) in the rural areas suffer from sight disability compare to 33.3 percent for those in the urban areas. Similarly, more males (37.4%) in rural areas suffer from sight disability than their counterparts in the urban areas (30.9%). At the same time, more males (31.4%) in urban areas suffer from physical disability than 30.2 percent of their counterparts in the rural area.

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

Disability Type	Number	Percent		
		Both sexes	Male	Female
All Localities				
Total	108,298	100.0	100.0	100.0
No disability	105,400	97.3	97.4	97.3
With disability	2,898	2.7	2.6	2.7
Sight	1,035	35.7	34.8	36.6
Hearing	395	13.6	13.0	14.2
Speech	467	16.1	17.7	14.7
Physical	894	30.8	30.7	31.0
Intellectual	359	12.4	13.1	11.8
Emotional	459	15.8	15.2	16.4
Other	304	10.5	9.8	11.1
Urban				
Total	54,146	100.0	100.0	100.0
No disability	52,866	97.6	97.8	97.5
With disability	1,280	2.4	2.2	2.5
Sight	413	32.3	30.9	33.3
Hearing	160	12.5	13.5	11.7
Speech	217	17.0	19.7	14.9
Physical	385	30.1	31.4	29.1
Intellectual	171	13.4	15.5	11.7
Emotional	292	22.8	22.4	23.1
Other	126	9.8	7.0	12.0
Rural				
Total	54,152	100.0	100.0	100.0
No disability	52,534	97.0	97.1	97.0
With disability	1,618	3.0	2.9	3.0
Sight	622	38.4	37.4	39.4
Hearing	235	14.5	12.6	16.5
Speech	250	15.5	16.3	14.6
Physical	509	31.5	30.2	32.7
Intellectual	188	11.6	11.4	11.8
Emotional	167	10.3	10.3	10.3
Other	178	11.0	11.7	10.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.5 Disability by Economic Activity

Table 6.2 presents the economic activity status of persons with disability by sex. Of the total of 2,433 persons 15 years and older with disabilities in the municipality, almost 52.2 percent are employed, 1.8 percent are unemployed and 45.7 percent are economically not active. Among the types of disability that are employed, persons with other disability recorded the highest (62.2%) while intellectual disability recorded the least (30.8%). There are more males (55.7%) with disabilities who are employed compared to their female (49.8%) counterparts.

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

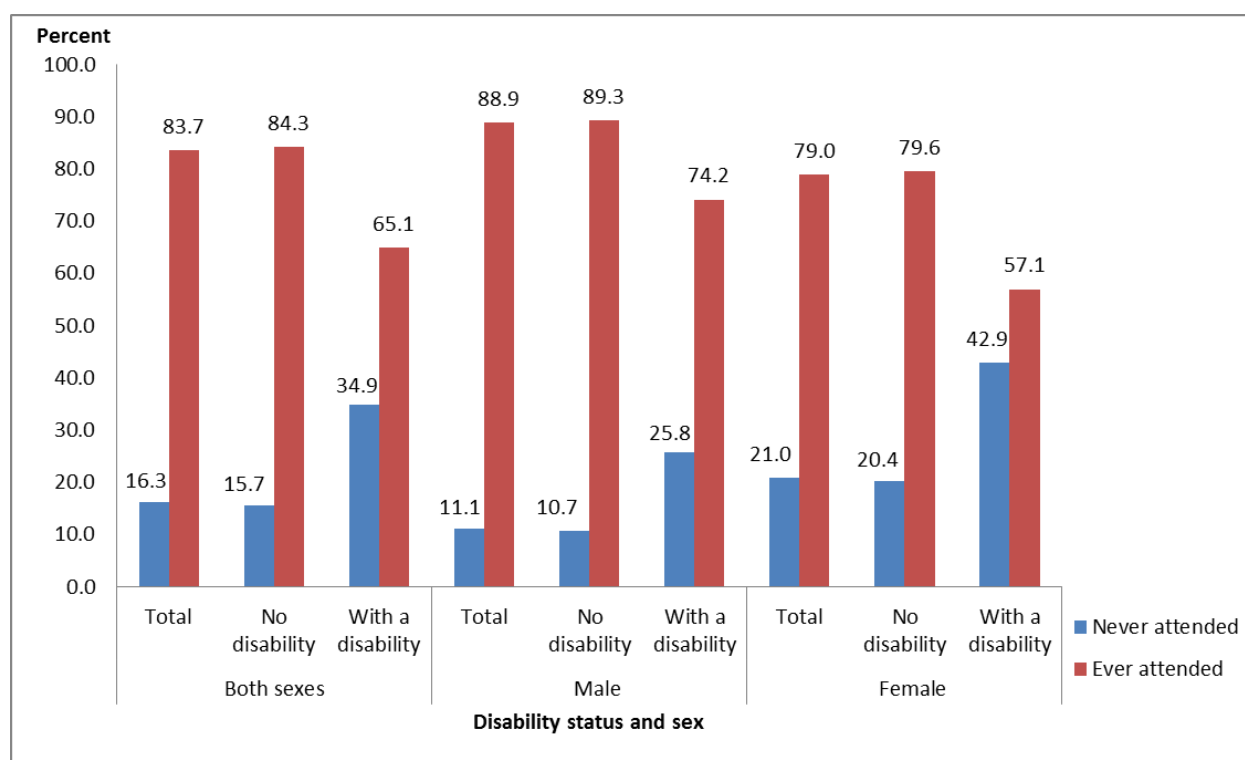
Sex/Disability type	All status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	65,869	100.0	45,077	68.4	2,219	3.4	18,573	28.2
No disability	63,436	100.0	43,800	69.0	2,176	3.4	17,460	27.5
With a disability	2,433	100.0	1,277	52.5	43	1.8	1,113	45.7
Sight	939	100.0	516	55.0	13	1.4	410	43.7
Hearing	318	100.0	167	52.5	8	2.5	143	45.0
Speech	314	100.0	155	49.4	12	3.8	147	46.8
Physical	795	100.0	331	41.6	13	1.6	451	56.7
Intellectual	286	100.0	88	30.8	7	2.4	191	66.8
Emotional	375	100.0	193	51.5	5	1.3	177	47.2
Other	230	100.0	143	62.2	10	4.3	77	33.5
Male								
Total	30,391	100.0	21,529	70.8	899	3.0	7,963	26.2
No disability	29,268	100.0	20,904	71.4	886	3.0	7,478	25.6
With a disability	1,123	100.0	625	55.7	13	1.2	485	43.2
Sight	438	100.0	239	54.6	7	1.6	192	43.8
Hearing	140	100.0	76	54.3	4	2.9	60	42.9
Speech	155	100.0	85	54.8	2	1.3	68	43.9
Physical	365	100.0	174	47.7	4	1.1	187	51.2
Intellectual	146	100.0	50	34.2	3	2.1	93	63.7
Emotional	167	100.0	92	55.1	3	1.8	72	43.1
Other	93	100.0	61	65.6	2	2.2	30	32.3
Female								
Total	35,478	100.0	23,548	66.4	1,320	3.7	10,610	29.9
No disability	34,168	100.0	22,896	67.0	1,290	3.8	9,982	29.2
With a disability	1,310	100.0	652	49.8	30	2.3	628	47.9
Sight	501	100.0	277	55.3	6	1.2	218	43.5
Hearing	178	100.0	91	51.1	4	2.2	83	46.6
Speech	159	100.0	70	44.0	10	6.3	79	49.7
Physical	430	100.0	157	36.5	9	2.1	264	61.4
Intellectual	140	100.0	38	27.1	4	2.9	98	70.0
Emotional	208	100.0	101	48.6	2	1.0	105	50.5
Other	137	100.0	82	59.9	8	5.8	47	34.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.6 Disability by School Attendance and sex

Figure 6.2 shows that 34.9 percent of the disabled population has never attended school with 65.1 percent ever attended school compared to 15.7 percent of the population with no disability who have never attended school and 84.3 percent who ever attended school. A quarter (25.8%) of the male disabled population has never attended school compare to almost three –quarters (74.2%) that have ever attended school while 10.7 percent of the male population with no disability has never attended school as against 89.3 percent who have ever attended school. However, 42.9 percent of the total female population with disability has never attended school with 57.1 percent ever attended school and 20.4 percent of the female population with no disability has never attended school with 79.6 percent ever attended school.

Figure 6.2: Population distribution by disability status, school attendance and sex



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.7 Disability and Level of Education

In general, education enhances the employment opportunities of all persons in Ghana, including persons with disability. Consequently the government and various social welfare agencies have been implementing policies to improve access of persons with disability to education at all levels.

Table 6.3 shows population 3 years and older by sex, disability type and level of education. About 34.9 percent of persons with disability in the municipality have never attended school, while 51.5 percent attained basic education and 10.8 percent had attended Secondary/SHS and higher level.

The proportion of females with disability who have never attended school is 42.9 percent compared to that of males (25.8%). Again the proportion of males with disability, who attained basic education (56.1%), Secondary/SHS and higher (14.1%) levels are more than their female counterparts who attained basic (47.5%) and Secondary/SHS and higher (7.9%) levels.

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	99,237	16,143	9,155	62,914	11,025	100.0	16.3	9.2	63.4	11.1
No disability	96,401	15,152	9,076	61,454	10,719	100.0	15.7	9.4	63.7	11.1
With a disability	2,836	991	79	1,460	306	100.0	34.9	2.8	51.5	10.8
Sight	1,020	398	21	485	116	100.0	39.0	2.1	47.5	11.4
Hearing	389	168	8	181	32	100.0	43.2	2.1	46.5	8.2
Speech	449	171	21	213	44	100.0	38.1	4.7	47.4	9.8
Physical	875	355	15	413	92	100.0	40.6	1.7	47.2	10.5
Intellectual	353	129	14	163	47	100.0	36.5	4.0	46.2	13.3
Emotional	450	109	15	260	66	100.0	24.2	3.3	57.8	14.7
Other	296	94	13	169	20	100.0	31.8	4.4	57.1	6.8
Male										
Total	47,576	5,286	4,683	31,177	6,430	100.0	11.1	9.8	65.5	13.5
No disability	46,254	4,945	4,630	30,436	6,243	100.0	10.7	10.0	65.8	13.5
With a disability	1,322	341	53	741	187	100.0	25.8	4.0	56.1	14.1
Sight	463	128	8	249	78	100.0	27.6	1.7	53.8	16.8
Hearing	174	62	8	87	17	100.0	35.6	4.6	50.0	9.8
Speech	229	66	18	117	28	100.0	28.8	7.9	51.1	12.2
Physical	407	108	12	230	57	100.0	26.5	2.9	56.5	14.0
Intellectual	177	53	7	90	27	100.0	29.9	4.0	50.8	15.3
Emotional	201	35	10	116	40	100.0	17.4	5.0	57.7	19.9
Other	129	30	11	80	8	100.0	23.3	8.5	62.0	6.2
Female										
Total	51,661	10,857	4,472	31,737	4,595	100.0	21.0	8.7	61.4	8.9
No disability	50,147	10,207	4,446	31,018	4,476	100.0	20.4	8.9	61.9	8.9
With a disability	1,514	650	26	719	119	100.0	42.9	1.7	47.5	7.9
Sight	557	270	13	236	38	100.0	48.5	2.3	42.4	6.8
Hearing	215	106	0	94	15	100.0	49.3	0.0	43.7	7.0
Speech	220	105	3	96	16	100.0	47.7	1.4	43.6	7.3
Physical	468	247	3	183	35	100.0	52.8	0.6	39.1	7.5
Intellectual	176	76	7	73	20	100.0	43.2	4.0	41.5	11.4
Emotional	249	74	5	144	26	100.0	29.7	2.0	57.8	10.4
Other	167	64	2	89	12	100.0	38.3	1.2	53.3	7.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER SEVEN

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

7.1 Introduction

The focus of agricultural development strategy under the GSGDA is to accelerate the modernisation of agriculture to contribute significantly to the structural transformation of the economy through an effective linkage between agriculture and industry, accompanied by job creation, increased exports earnings, food security, and supply of raw materials for value addition. This chapter on agricultural activities includes households who are engaged in agricultural activities by the Municipality and their locality (rural/urban), sex and age of household heads, types of crops cultivated, tree planting, rearing of livestock and breeding of fish.

7.2 Households in Agriculture

An agricultural household is one that engages generally in agricultural activities or is said to be an agricultural household if at least one of its members engages in agricultural production even if not earning from agricultural activity alone (2010 PHC).

Table 7.1 shows the distribution of household by agricultural activity in the urban and rural areas of the Municipality. There are 26,753 households in the Municipality and a total of 15,238 (57.0%) of these households are engaged in agricultural activities in the Municipality.

Table 7.1: Size of households by agricultural activities and locality

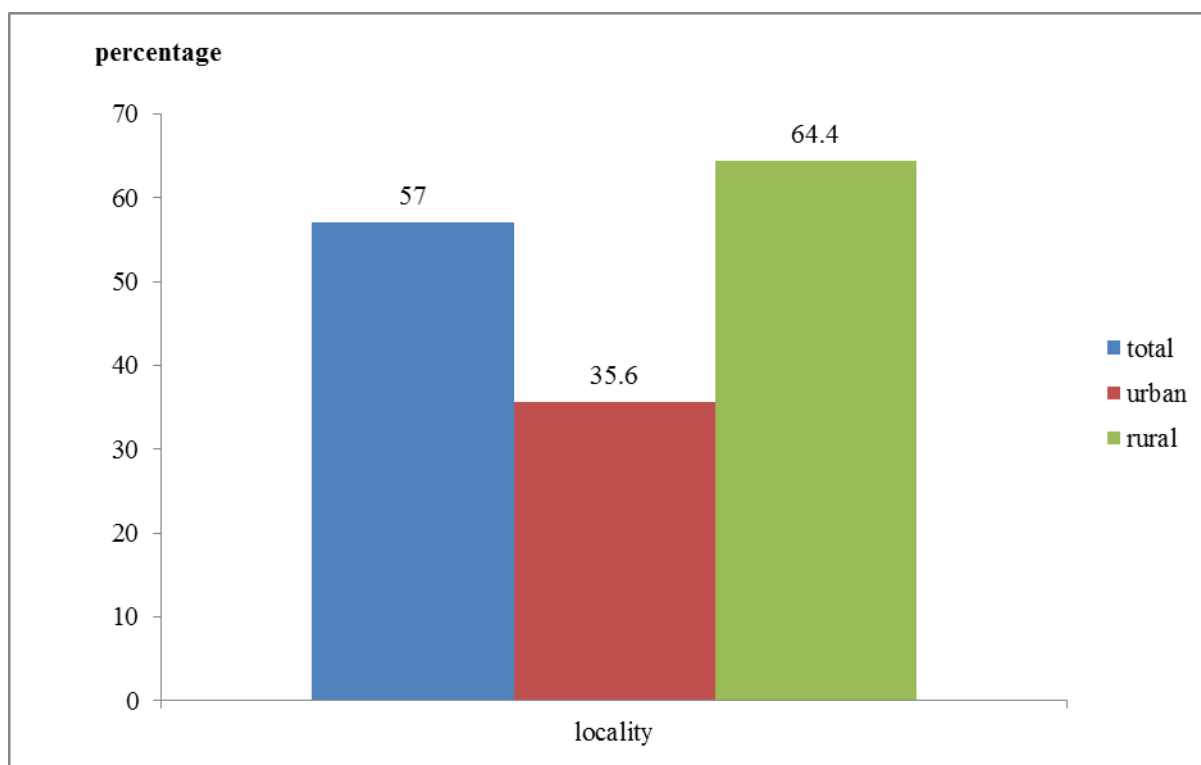
Agriculture activity	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Households	26,753	100.0	14,717	55.0	12,036	45.0
Households engaged in agriculture	15,238	100.0	5,432	35.6	9,806	64.4
Crop farming	14,656	100.0	5,045	34.4	9,611	65.6
Tree planting	76	100.0	46	60.5	30	39.5
Livestock rearing	5,264	100.0	1,107	21.0	4,157	79.0
Fish farming	6	100.0	3	50.0	3	50.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

7.2.1 Distribution of agricultural households by locality

Figure 7.1 shows the distribution of household engaged in agricultural activity by locality. Agricultural activities are predominantly rural-based in Ghana. Of the 15,238 agricultural households engaged in agricultural activities in the municipal, 64.4 percent are in the rural areas and 35.6 percent in the urban areas.

Figure 7.1: Distribution of agricultural households by locality



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Information was collected on four types of agricultural activities during the 2010 Population and Housing Census. These are crop farming, tree farming, fish farming and livestock rearing. From Table 7.1, of the 15,238 agricultural households in the Municipality 14,656 are engaged in crop farming. Almost two - thirds (65.6%) of crop farmers are in the rural areas with 34.4 percent in the urban areas. Seven in ten (79%) of livestock rearers are in the rural areas and 21.0 percent in the urban areas. More than half (60.5%) of agricultural households in tree planting are in the urban areas with almost 39.5 percent in the rural areas. Households in fish farming for both urban and rural is 50 percent each.

7.3 Types of livestock, animals reared and keepers

The agriculture sector's objective of attaining food security covers access to quality meat, animal and dairy products to ensure healthy nutrition for the people (GSGDA 2010-2013). A total of 129,681 of animals, birds, fish, snail and silk farm, bee cultivation and others are kept in the Municipality with an average of 16 per keeper. It is observed from table 7.3 that majority (86,988) of these are chicken with its relative higher number of keepers (4,119) and an average of 21 per keeper in the Municipality. Other types such as goats (24,031), sheep (7,853), snail (3,821), duck (2,011), pigs (1,730) and cattle (1,489) also form a large proportion of the total animal population. On the other hand, beehives (40), ostrich (30) and silk worm (78), fish farming (38) and inland fishing (50) constitute a smaller proportion.

Table 7.2: Distribution of livestock, other animals and keepers

Type of animals	Quantity	Number of keepers	Average per Keeper
All Types	129,681	8,319	16
Animals			
Goat	24,031	2,672	9
Pig	1,730	277	6
Rabbit	257	24	11
Sheep	7,853	837	9
Cattle	1,489	77	19
Grass-cutter	186	27	7
Birds			
Chicken	86,988	4,119	21
Dove	168	14	12
Guinea fowl	237	22	11
Ostrich	367	17	22
Turkey	237	17	14
Fish			
Fish farming	38	2	19
Inland fishing	50	2	25
Marine fishing	30	2	15
Snail and Silk Worm			
Silk worm	78	14	6
Snail	3,821	8	478
Beehives			
	40	5	8
Others	70	8	9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER EIGHT

HOUSING CONDITIONS

8.1 Introduction

The relationship between population and housing is key in decision making. As population increases so a number of households increases and lead to demand for housing. Rapid urbanization has led to poor housing conditions in the urban areas. Concerns for human conditions associated with housing led to the inclusion of housing in the 2010 Population and Housing Census.

The 2010 Population and Housing Census is the second time questions on housing were asked. A number of housing characteristics and associated conditions such as overcrowding, declining supply of basic services such as drinking water and sanitation facilities (toilet and bathroom) are important areas that are required for monitoring progress in human development. This chapter provides data on housing and housing conditions that pertained in the West Akim Municipal in 2010. It also examines the housing stock, type of dwelling, room occupancy, holding and tenancy, lighting and cooking facilities, bathing and toilet facilities, waste disposal and source of water for domestic use among others.

8.2 Housing stock

Table 8.1 indicates the stock of housing units and households in the Municipal. Approximately, the share of the housing stock of the Municipal in the region is 3.3 percent (15,999). The distribution of housing units varies within the type of locality in the Municipal with proportions in the rural areas (59.8%) being higher than those of urban areas (40.2%).

The average household per house (1.7) in the Municipal is higher than the regional (1.5) and national (1.6) averages. In the urban areas (2.3) the average household per house is higher the rural areas (1.3). The population per house in the Municipal is 6.8 and this is slightly above the Regional average (6.1) but below the National (7.3) average. The figure is higher in the urban (5.3) areas than rural (4.7) areas. The average household size is exactly 4.0, which is relatively lower than both region (4.2) and national figures (4.5).

Table 8.1: Stock of houses and households

Categories	Region	District		
		Total	Urban	Rural
Total population	2,633,154	108,298	54,146	54,152
Total household population	2,574,549	107,095	53,639	53,456
Number of houses	431,697	15,999	6,446	9,553
Number of households	632,045	26,752	14,717	12,035
Average households per house	1.5	1.7	2.3	1.3
Population per house	6.1	6.8	8.4	5.7
Average household size	4.2	4.0	3.7	4.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.3 Type of Dwelling, Holding and Tenancy Arrangement

This section provides information on type of dwelling units, holding and tenancy arrangements by sex of household head by

8.3.1 Types of dwelling units

Compound houses (63.7%) constitute the most common type of dwelling unit in the Municipal. This is followed by separate houses (25.2%) and semi-detached house (5.1%) which constitutes percent. Other dwelling units, flat/apartment, both hut/building (same or different compound), tent, improvised home (kiosk/container etc), living quarters attached to office/shop and uncompleted building in total constitute 5.9 percent of the total dwelling units in the Municipal.

Information in Table 8.2 shows that three out of every four (76.7 percent) households in urban areas of the Municipal live in compound house with a corresponding proportion of 47.8 percent in the rural areas. This is followed by separate houses which form 13.7 percent of all occupied dwellings in urban areas and 39.3 percent for rural areas. Semi-detached form 5.2 percent and 5.1 percent for both urban and rural occupied dwellings respectively.

8.3.2 Sex of household head and type of dwelling

The table 8.2 also indicates the various types of dwelling by sex of household head. Sixty-nine percent of all female headed households reside in compound house which is higher compared to male headed household of 60.0 percent. Almost 29 percent of male headed households reside in separate house which is higher than the proportion of female headed households residing in separate house (20.5%). Also, the proportions of male-headed households residing in huts/building (same compound) (3.3%) is high compared to the female headed households of three percent (2.1%) and the same percentage (0.5%) for male and female headed households residing in huts/building(different compound).

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

Type of dwelling	Total country	Region	District					
			Total		Male headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent				
Total	5,467,054	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Separate house	1,471,391	193,719	6,752	25.2	28.5	20.5	13.7	39.3
Semi-detached house	391,548	42,458	1,377	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.1
Flat/Apartment	256,355	16,839	434	1.6	1.6	1.7	2.5	0.5
Compound house (rooms)	2,942,147	349,682	17,042	63.7	60.0	69.0	76.7	47.8
Huts/Buildings (same compound)	170,957	17,381	756	2.8	3.3	2.1	0.5	5.7
Huts/Buildings (different compound)	36,410	3,236	136	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.9
Tent	10,343	950	42	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Improvised home (kiosk/container etc.)	90,934	3,055	100	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Living quarters attached to office/shop	20,499	1,736	54	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1
Uncompleted building	66,624	2,335	54	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1
Other	9,846	654	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.3.3 Ownership status of dwelling by sex of household and type of locality

Out of the 26,752 dwelling units in the Municipal, (Table 8.3) 51.9 percent are owned by household member. Also relatives who are not household members own 15.1 percent of the dwelling units and other private individual own 30.9 percent.

The proportion of male-headed households residing in dwellings owned by household members is 54.4 percent while female-headed household is 48.4 percent. Also the proportion of households headed by females (32.9%) who live in dwellings belonging to other private individuals is higher than male-headed households (29.4%). Female headed households occupying houses belonging to relatives who are not household members is 16.9 percent and almost 14 percent for (13.8%) male headed household.

In the rural areas, a high proportion of housing units are owned by household members (67.9%). This is followed by houses belonging to other private individual (18.2%). Most urban (41.2%) dwelling units are owned by other private individual followed by dwellings owned by household member of almost 40 percent (38.9%).

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

Ownership status	Total		District					
			Total		Male headed	Female headed	Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent				
Total	5,467,054	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Owned by household member	2,883,236	335,114	13,897	51.9	54.4	48.4	38.9	67.9
Being purchased (e.g. mortgage)	45,630	4,009	61	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Relative not a household member	851,630	108,374	4,032	15.1	13.8	16.9	17.2	12.4
Other private individual	1,439,021	159,804	8,255	30.9	29.4	32.9	41.2	18.2
Private employer	83,610	6,862	178	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7
Other private agency	21,123	2,797	62	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1
Public/Government ownership	118,804	12,754	222	0.8	1.0	0.5	1.2	0.3
Other	24,000	2,331	45	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4 Construction materials

This section provides information on the main materials for the outer walls, main materials for the floor of the dwelling and main materials for the roofing of the dwelling unit by locality.

8.4.1 Main materials for construction of the outer walls

The table 8.4 shows the main construction materials for dwelling unit in the Municipal. Cement block/concrete and mud brick/earth (60.8%) are the most common type of main construction material used constituting percent and 34.8 percent respectively followed by land Crete (1.7%). The proportion of all other forms of construction materials for outer is less than three percent.

About 80 percent of the dwellings in the urban areas use cement blocks or concrete as the main construction material for outer wall whiles in the rural areas it is only 37.5 percent. A higher proportion of dwellings in rural areas use mud brick/earth (57.3%) as the main construction material for the outer wall compared to dwellings in the urban areas (15.6%).

Also the usage of landcrete for the construction of the outer of dwelling unit is comparatively higher in rural areas (2.4%) than in the urban areas (1.1%).

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

Material for Outer wall	Total		District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	Country	Region	Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	686,478	27,671	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud brick/earth	1,991,540	266,725	9,620	34.8	15.6	57.3
Wood	200,594	12,028	315	1.1	1.0	1.3
Metal sheet/slate/asbestos	43,708	4,268	140	0.5	0.7	0.3
Stone	11,330	1,182	24	0.1	0.1	0.0
Burnt bricks	38,237	6,481	139	0.5	0.3	0.8
Cement blocks/concrete	3,342,462	370,691	16,827	60.8	80.7	37.5
Landcrete	104,270	19,885	461	1.7	1.1	2.4
Bamboo	8,206	954	29	0.1	0.1	0.1
Palm leaf/thatch (grass)/raffia	38,054	1,202	5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	39,206	3,062	111	0.4	0.6	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.2 Main materials for construction of the floor

The various types of materials used for the construction of the floor in the Municipality are presented in Table 8.5. The most commonly used material for the construction of the floor of the dwelling unit is cement/concrete which constitute 77.6 percent of the total proportion of the materials used. This is followed by earth/mud (19.7%) and stone (1.3%).

The remaining type of material used for the construction of the floor of the dwelling unit which includes burnt brick, wood, vinyl tiles, ceramic/porcelain/granite/marble tiles, terrazzo/terrazzo tiles and others in total constitute almost two percent (1.5%) of the total materials for the floor.

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

Materials for the floor	Total		District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	country	Region	Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0
Earth/mud	872,161	118,931	5,271	19.7	15.4	25.0
Cement/concrete	4,255,611	491,586	20,753	77.6	81.0	73.4
Stone	32,817	6,076	358	1.3	1.9	0.7
Burnt brick	6,537	710	17	0.1	0.1	0.1
Wood	52,856	1,345	41	0.2	0.2	0.1
Vinyl tiles	57,032	2,914	45	0.2	0.3	0.1
Ceramic/porcelain/granite/marble tiles	88,500	5,404	157	0.6	0.6	0.5
Terrazzo/terrazzo tiles	85,973	3,833	57	0.2	0.4	0.0
Other	15,567	1,246	53	0.2	0.2	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

In general, greater percentage of households in urban areas (81.0%) than rural areas (73.4%) uses cement. The use of earth/mud in construction of the floor of the dwelling unit is 25.0 percent in rural areas compared to 15.4 percent in the urban areas. This could be attributed to the fact that earth/mud is readily available in large quantities and cheap to households who cannot afford the expensive materials.

8.4.3 Main roofing materials

Table 8.6 shows the type of materials used for roofing in the Municipal. Metal sheet (94.1%) is the main roofing material in the Municipal. This is followed by thatch /palm leaf or raffia (2.2%) and bamboo (1.2%).

As shown in Table 8.6, metal sheets are the most widely used roofing material in both urban and rural areas constituting 96.9 percent and 90.8 percent respectively. Rural households in the Municipal use more thatch/palm leaf or raffia for roofing (4.4) and bamboo (2.5) than the urban households (0.4%) 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	686,478	27,671	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud/mud bricks/earth	80,644	3,693	148	0.5	0.3	0.8
Wood	45,547	3,527	118	0.4	0.3	0.6
Metal sheet	4,152,259	604,209	26,026	94.1	96.9	90.8
Slate/asbestos	759,039	8,831	114	0.4	0.7	0.0
Cement/concrete	141,072	5,561	188	0.7	0.8	0.5
Roofing tile	31,456	1,012	20	0.1	0.1	0.0
Bamboo	71,049	4,630	343	1.2	0.2	2.5
Thatch/palm leaf or raffia	500,606	52,372	622	2.2	0.4	4.4
Other	35,935	2,643	92	0.3	0.3	0.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.5 Room Occupancy

This section provides information on the distribution of household size and number of sleeping rooms. Generally, the number of room used by household's increases as the household size increases. Table 8.7 shows that more than half (58.3%) of the households sleep in single or one room followed by those who sleep in two rooms (26.7%), three rooms (8.3%) and four rooms (3.7%). About 98.5 percent of household size of one sleep in one room (89.9%) and two rooms (8.6%). A significant 23.6% of a household size 10 or more occupy three rooms.

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

House hold 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	26,752	100.0	58.3	26.7	8.3	3.7	1.5	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.2
1	5,355	100.0	89.9	8.6	1.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
2	3,805	100.0	74.6	22.1	2.1	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
3	3,878	100.0	64.5	27.7	5.7	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1
4	3,736	100.0	55.6	32.5	7.4	3.4	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0
5	3,357	100.0	47.6	35.4	10.7	4.2	1.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
6	2,413	100.0	36.1	40.2	15.2	5.2	1.9	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.1
7	1,594	100.0	29.3	38.3	17.6	9.4	3.3	0.9	0.8	0.3	0.2
8	993	100.0	22.0	37.9	21.6	10.4	5.6	1.3	0.7	0.3	0.3
9	625	100.0	18.1	31.0	23.2	15.5	6.6	3.4	1.4	0.3	0.5
10+	996	100.0	9.9	22.0	23.6	16.0	11.8	9.1	2.9	1.5	3.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

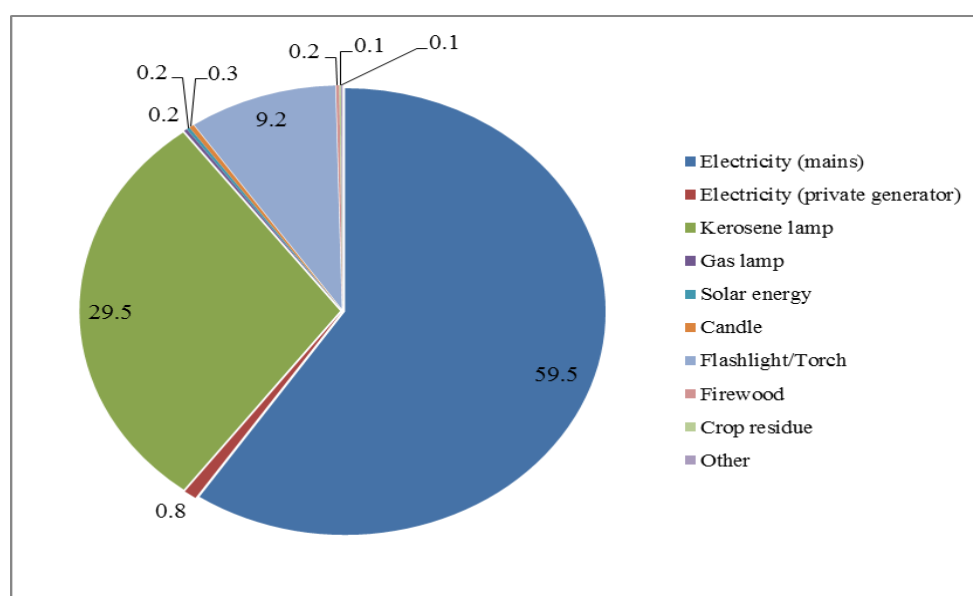
8.6 Access to Utilities and Household Facilities

This section describes housing facilities such as main source of lighting, source of light by locality and main source of cooking fuel by locality available to households in West Akim Municipal.

8.6.1 Main source of lighting

Electricity has been the main source of lighting since independence. Its importance cannot be overlooked in the development of every nation as it determines the rate of production and growth in most industries. Figure 8.1 indicates that almost sixty percent (59.9%) of the households use electricity as their main source of lighting. About thirty percent (29.5%) also use kerosene lamp and 9.2 percent use flashlight/torch. The proportion of households that use the candles, electricity (generator), solar energy, firewood, crop residue and other sources constitute almost two percent (1.9%) of the total household.

Figure 8.1: Percentage distribution of source of power



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6.2 Main source of lighting by locality

Table 8.8 shows that the proportions households that use electricity from the mains as their main source of lighting is higher in the urban areas (75.2%) than in the rural areas (40.3%) In the rural areas the proportion of households using kerosene lamp as their main source of lighting is 42.5 percent higher than their urban (18.9%) counterparts.

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

Main source of light	Total		District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
	country	Region	Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0
Electricity (mains)	3,511,065	369,961	15,912	59.5	75.2	40.3
Electricity (private generator)	36,142	4,282	203	0.8	0.8	0.7
Kerosene lamp	971,807	159,439	7,896	29.5	18.9	42.5
Gas lamp	9,378	1,135	49	0.2	0.2	0.2
Solar energy	9,194	1,018	44	0.2	0.1	0.3
Candle	41,214	2,595	85	0.3	0.4	0.3
Flashlight/torch	858,651	90,643	2,450	9.2	4.1	15.4
Firewood	13,241	1,593	61	0.2	0.2	0.3
Crop residue	4,623	447	30	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other	11,739	932	22	0.1	0.1	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6.3 The main source of cooking fuel

Table 8.9 indicates the main source of cooking fuel in the Municipal. It is observed that wood, charcoal and gas are the main dominant sources of fuel used in the municipal. These three sources of cooking fuel constitute 93.7 percent. Almost five percent (4.9%) of the total households in the Municipal do not cook.

A greater proportion of rural households use wood (81.3%) as their main source of cooking fuel followed by charcoal (11.1%). In the urban areas more than half of the urban households use charcoal (54.2%) as the most common source of cooking fuel followed by wood (20.1%). Wood and charcoal are the most common source of cooking fuel in rural areas than the urban areas. This is because of its availability and affordability for the people. Three percent of the rural household use gas compared to 17.7 percent in the urban areas.

8.6.4 Cooking space

The Table further shows that 33.0 percent of the households have separate rooms for exclusive use for cooking as cooking space in the Municipality. This is followed 25.4 percent using verandah as cooking space and less than two percent (1.2%) use their bedroom/hall/living room as their cooking space. A higher proportion of rural households (44.8%) use separate room for exclusive use as cooking space than urban households (23.4%). This is followed by structure with roof but without walls (14.1%) and verandah (14.0%) in rural households and 13.6 percent also for verandah in urban households.

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	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0
None no cooking	306,118	29,214	1,322	4.9	6.4	3.1
Wood	2,197,083	315,386	12,744	47.6	20.1	81.3
Gas	996,518	74,339	2,968	11.1	17.7	3.0
Electricity	29,794	3,438	58	0.2	0.3	0.2
Kerosene	29,868	3,393	164	0.6	0.9	0.2
Charcoal	1,844,290	203,053	9,366	35.0	54.2	11.6
Crop residue	45,292	2,198	103	0.4	0.3	0.5
Saw dust	8,000	548	16	0.1	0.1	0.0
Animal waste	2,332	147	6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	7,759	329	5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cooking space used by household						
Total	5,467,054	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0
No cooking space	386,883	38,872	1,610	6.0	7.2	4.6
Separate room for exclusive use of household	1,817,018	230,426	8,829	33.0	23.4	44.8
Separate room shared with other household(s)	410,765	51,302	2,523	9.4	11.2	7.3
Enclosure without roof	117,614	10,220	421	1.6	1.2	2.0
Structure with roof but without walls	349,832	67,390	2,426	9.1	5.0	14.1
Bedroom/hall/living room)	74,525	7,798	330	1.2	1.7	0.7
Verandah	1,173,946	135,910	6,788	25.4	36.2	12.2
Open space in compound	1,115,464	87,662	3,683	13.8	13.6	14.0
Other	21,007	2,465	142	0.5	0.5	0.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.7 Main source of Water for Drinking and for other Domestic Use

8.7.1 Main source of drinking water

Water is one of the basic necessities of life. Table 8.10 shows the main source of drinking water in the Municipality. About 27 percent of the households depend on pipe-borne (inside dwelling, outside dwelling and public/standpipe) water. Approximately 20.6 percent of households in the Municipality also rely on rivers/streams for drinking followed by bore-hole/pump/tube well representing 18.8 percent. Approximately 17.1 percent of the household depends on protected well in the Municipality, 11.9 percent depend on sachet water for drinking in the Municipality. However bottled water (0.2%) and tanker supply/vendor providers (0.0%) constitute the lowest sources of drinking water in the Municipality.

The main source of drinking water varies within the locality in the municipality. Table 8.10 again indicates that, rivers/streams (38.1%) and bore-hole/pump/tube well (34.5%) are the most common sources of water for drinking in the rural areas. These are followed by protected well (11.2%), sachet water (2.8%), Unprotected well (3.1%) and rain water (0.8%), the remaining sources such as the dugout (0.6%), unprotected spring (0.2%), tanker supply is not common to the rural areas with bottled water (0.0%),

In the urban areas 42.9 percent of households use pipe-borne water (pipe-borne inside dwelling, outside dwelling and public/standpipe) as the main source of drinking water. This is followed by protected well representing 21.9 percent, sachet water representing 19.4 percent and bore-hole/pump/tube well represents (5.9%). River/stream constitutes less than ten

percent (6.2%) of the urban households who depends on it. The high cost of bottled water makes it unaffordable for the urban residents as compared to sachet water.

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						
Total	5,467,054	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	790,493	51,123	1,290	4.8	8.3	0.5
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,039,667	91,863	4,318	16.1	24.7	5.7
Public tap/standpipe	712,375	71,616	1,675	6.3	9.9	1.8
Bore-hole/pump/tube well	1,267,688	177,097	5,023	18.8	5.9	34.5
Protected well	321,091	58,167	4,574	17.1	21.9	11.2
Rain water	39,438	7,948	264	1.0	1.2	0.8
Protected spring	19,345	2,570	192	0.7	0.8	0.7
Bottled water	20,261	1,232	42	0.2	0.2	0.0
Sachet water	490,283	53,638	3,186	11.9	19.4	2.8
Tanker supply/vendor provided	58,400	1,562	4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unprotected well	112,567	9,712	559	2.1	1.2	3.1
Unprotected spring	12,222	1,751	29	0.1	0.1	0.2
River/stream	502,804	94,883	5,498	20.6	6.2	38.1
Dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal	76,448	8,624	70	0.3	0.0	0.6
Other	3,972	259	28	0.1	0.2	0.0
Main source of water for other domestic use						
Total	5,467,054	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	905,566	55,588	1,317	4.9	8.5	0.6
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,089,030	83,245	2,958	11.1	15.9	5.1
Public tap/standpipe	704,293	65,772	1,050	3.9	6.2	1.2
Bore-hole/pump/tube well	1,280,465	180,604	5,528	20.7	10.2	33.4
Protected well	465,775	95,179	8,841	33.0	48.4	14.2
Rain water	39,916	7,577	219	0.8	0.7	0.9
Protected spring	18,854	2,760	212	0.8	0.8	0.8
Tanker supply/vendor provided	100,048	1,975	11	0.0	0.1	0.0
Unprotected well	152,055	13,230	666	2.5	1.9	3.2
Unprotected spring	15,738	2,196	27	0.1	0.1	0.1
River/stream	588,590	112,728	5,741	21.5	7.0	39.1
Dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal	96,422	9,850	92	0.3	0.0	0.7
Other	10,302	1,341	90	0.3	0.2	0.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.7.2 Main source of water for other domestic use

Table 8.10 again shows the main source of water for other domestic use in the Municipality. One-third (33.0%) of households in the Municipality rely on protected well as the main source of water for other domestic use. This is followed by rivers/streams representing 21.5 percent.

More than one-fifth (20.7%) of the households depend on borehole/pump/tube well in the Municipality Households that depend on pipe-borne outside dwelling constitute 11.1 percent and those that depend on pipe-born water inside dwelling and public tab/ stand pipe for other domestic use is 8.8 percent.

Table 8.10 indicates further that, rivers/streams (39.1%) and bore-hole/pump/tube well (33.4%) are the most common sources of water for other domestic use in the rural areas.

These are followed by protected well (14.2%). Approximately 5.1 percent of the rural households depend on pipe-borne outside dwelling, pipe-borne inside dwelling less than one percent (0.6%), public tap (1.8%) and unprotected well (3.2%) in the rural areas. The remaining sources such as the dugout (0.7%), unprotected spring (0.1%) tanker supply are not common in the rural areas.

The main source of water for other domestic use in the urban areas in the Municipality is protected (48.4%) well followed by pipe-borne outside dwelling also constituting almost 16 percent (15.9). Bore-hole/pump/tube well constitutes 10.2 percent. River/stream constitutes less than ten percent (7.0%) of the urban households who depend on it.

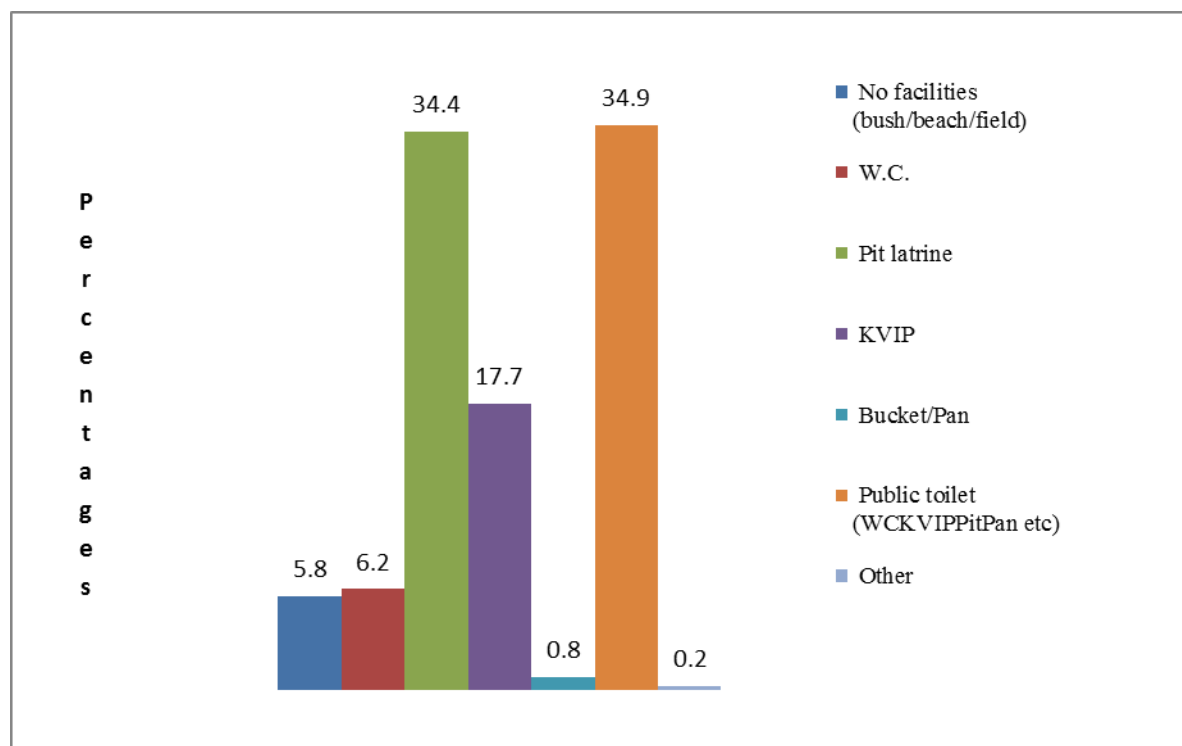
8.8 Bathing and Toilet facilities

This section provides information on the distribution of households by type of bathing and toilet facility and also by place of residence in the municipality.

8.8.1 Types of toilet facilities

Three main facilities available to households in the municipality: public toilet (WC, KVIP, Pit/Pan) (34.9%), pit latrine (34.4%) and KVIP (17.7%). Only 6.2 percent of households in the municipality use WC. Approximately six percent (5.6%) of the households do not have toilet facilities.

Figure 8.2: Types of toilet facilities for dwelling units

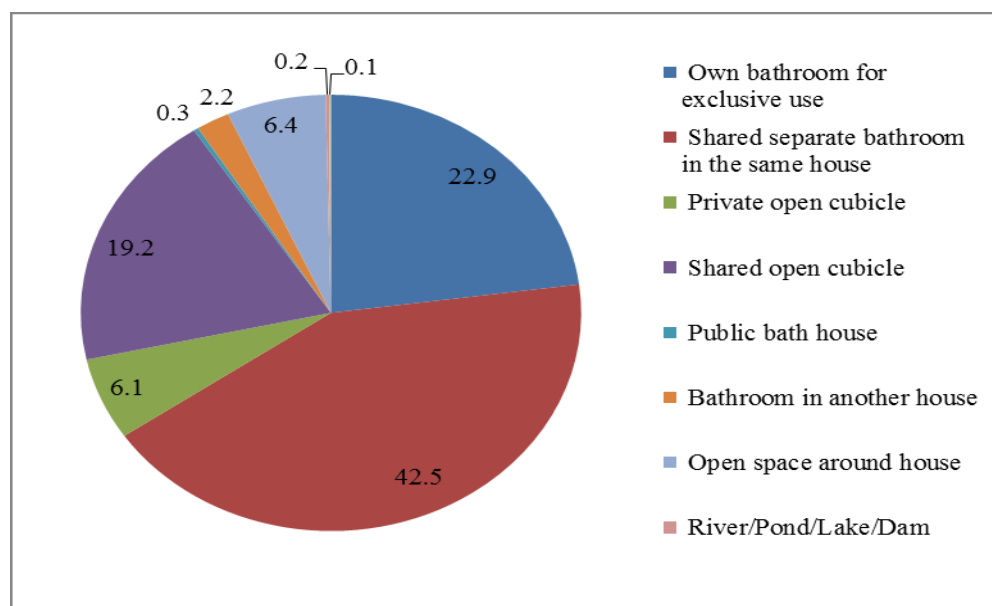


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.8.2 Types of bathing facilities

Different types of bathing facilities are available in the municipality, the commonest being the shared separate bathroom in the same house represent (42.5%), followed by own bathroom for exclusive use representing (22.9%), shared open cubicle represent (19.2%), followed by open space around house representing (6.4%) and private open cubicle represent (6.1%). Public bath houses are not very common in the West Akim Municipal as only a handful of households utilize it.

Figure 8.3: Types of bathing facilities for dwelling units



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.8.3 Bathing and toilet facility by locality

Table 8.11 shows toilet and bathing facilities in the West Akim Municipal. Approximately 8 percent households in the rural areas have no toilet facilities as compared to 4.3% households in the urban areas. These households in rural and urban areas normally resort to free range or open defecation. The use of public toilet is very common in both urban and rural areas of the Municipality with 39.3 percent for urban households and 29.4 percent of rural households depending on it as their main toilet facility. However, 26.4 percent of urban households use KVIP as compared to 7.0 percent of households in the rural areas. The proportion of rural households (53.9%) using pit latrines as their main toilet facility is three times greater than the proportion of urban households (18.5%).

Also, a small proportion of rural households (1.4%) use water closet (W.C) as compared to 10.2 percent of urban households. Households that use bucket/Pan and other types of toilet facilities constitute a small proportion of both urban and rural population.

Almost 32 percent (31.5%) of the rural households have their own bathroom for exclusive use. followed by shared separate bathroom in the same house (25.6%) in the rural areas, Private open cubicle (10.1%) and shared open cubicle in rural areas is 18.8 percent. Households using public bath houses are just a handful and it is not common in the rural areas a small proportion 0.3 percent.

Also a significant amount of households of almost ten percent (9.6%) in the rural areas use open space around house as their bathroom.

In the urban areas, shared separate bathroom in the same house (56.4%) is the commonest facility use, followed by shared open cubicles (19.6%), followed by own bath for exclusive use (15.9%).

The use of public bath house in the urban areas is not common in the municipality whiles the use of bathroom in another house (1.0%).

Table 8.11: Bathing facility and toilet facilities used by household

Toilet facility/Bathing facility	Total country Region		District			
			Total		Urban	Percent
			Number	Percent		
Toilet facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0
W.C.	839,611	55,161	1,661	6.2	10.2	1.4
Pit latrine	1,040,883	203,246	9,215	34.4	18.5	53.9
KVIP	572,824	100,193	4,729	17.7	26.4	7.0
Bucket/Pan	40,678	3,926	207	0.8	1.0	0.5
Public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit/Pan etc.)	1,893,291	195,950	9,324	34.9	39.3	29.4
No facilities (bush/beach/field)	1,056,382	71,384	1,550	5.8	4.3	7.6
Other	23,385	2,185	66	0.2	0.3	0.2
Bathing facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0
Own bathroom for exclusive use	1,535,392	163,394	6,132	22.9	15.9	31.5
Shared separate bathroom in the same house	1,818,522	209,248	11,382	42.5	56.4	25.6
Private open cubicle	381,979	56,572	1,630	6.1	2.8	10.1
Shared open cubicle	1,000,257	131,234	5,140	19.2	19.6	18.8
Public bath house	140,501	2,817	82	0.3	0.3	0.3
Bathroom in another house	187,337	19,316	578	2.2	1.0	3.6
Open space around house	372,556	45,833	1,715	6.4	3.8	9.6
River/pond/lake/dam	14,234	1,996	61	0.2	0.1	0.4
Other	16,276	1,635	32	0.1	0.1	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.9 Method of Waste Disposal

Table 8.12 talks about methods of waste disposal that households in the Municipality have access to such as solid waste disposal, liquid waste disposal, and by locality.

8.9.1 Solid waste disposal

The commonest methods of solid waste disposal among households in the Municipality are public dumping in open space (36.4%) and public dump in container (36.4%). Almost three percent (2.6%) of the households' solid waste is collected.

Indiscriminate dumping of solid waste is common in the rural areas as (15.4%) compared to households in urban areas (2.1%). In the urban areas (63.9%) a higher proportion of households use the public dump (container) than those in the rural areas (2.9%). A higher proportion of households that buried their solid waste in the rural areas (8.3%) is higher than those in the urban areas (3.7%).

8.9.2 Liquid waste disposal

Liquid waste includes human waste, runoff (storm water or flood water), sewage, industrial waste water and other forms of waste water from different sources. Human waste is mainly composed of faeces and urine, which together are known as excreta.

Table 8.12 shows the distributions of sanitary facilities in the municipality. Most households throw their liquid waste onto compound (41.6%), street/outside (30.0%) and into gutter (20.3%) The practice of households resorting to the disposal of liquid waste through the sewerage system constitute less than one percent (0.4%), disposal through the drainage system represents almost six percent (5.9%), drainage into a pit (soak away) represents almost two percent

Greater proportion of rural households (61.2%) dispose of their liquid waste on to the compound compared to 25.6 percent of urban households. The proportion of urban households who resort to disposal of liquid waste by throwing onto the street/outside constituting 32.2 percent as compared to 27.3 percent of households in rural areas. A smaller proportion of households in rural areas (0.1%) and urban areas (0.6%) dispose of their waste through the sewerage system and a high percentage dispose of their waste through drainage system into a gutter in the rural areas represent almost one (0.8%) and in the urban areas represent exactly 10.0 percent. It is further realized that, the proportion of households in both urban (1.3%) and rural (1.6%) dwellings dispose of their liquid waste through drainage system into a pit (soak away) (1.5%) and other methods constitute less than one percent (0.4%).

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

Method of waste disposal	Total country	Region	Type of locality			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Solid waste						
Total	5,467,054	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0
Collected	785,889	26,049	694	2.6	2.7	2.5
Burned by household	584,820	102,501	2,735	10.2	7.3	13.9
Public dump (container)	1,299,654	143,820	9,750	36.4	63.9	2.9
Public dump (open space)	2,061,403	252,886	9,729	36.4	20.1	56.2
Dumped indiscriminately	498,868	63,321	2,157	8.1	2.1	15.4
Buried by household	182,615	37,144	1,544	5.8	3.7	8.3
Other	53,805	6,324	143	0.5	0.2	0.9
Liquid waste						
Total	5,467,054	632,045	26,752	100.0	100.0	100.0
Through the sewerage system	183,169	8,228	96	0.4	0.6	0.1
Through drainage system into a gutter	594,404	33,511	1,568	5.9	10.0	0.8
Through drainage into a pit (soak away)	167,555	11,428	393	1.5	1.3	1.6
Thrown onto the street/ outside	1,538,550	147,245	8,025	30.0	32.2	27.3
Thrown into gutter	1,020,096	106,945	5,436	20.3	30.0	8.5
Thrown onto compound	1,924,986	319,580	11,128	41.6	25.6	61.2
Other	38,294	5,108	106	0.4	0.3	0.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER NINE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses the findings, recommendations and conclusion from the analysis of data from the 2010 Population and Housing Census in the West Akim Municipality.

9.2 Summary of Findings

9.2.1 Demographic characteristics

Population size

The total population of West Akim Municipal in 2010 population and housing census is 108,298. This is almost three percent of the regional population. The population is made up of 48.2 percent males and 51.8 percent females.

Age- sex structure

More than a third (39.2%) of population in the Municipality are under 15 years of age (39.2%). The age structure of the municipality follows the regional and national pattern, that of a youthful population.

The sex ratio (the number of males per100 females) of the municipality stand at 93.1 percent, which shows predominance of females over males in the municipality.

Dependency ratio

From the 2010 population and housing census, West Akim Municipal has a dependency ratio of 80.6 which is somehow lower than the regional dependency ratio of 82. The Municipality has a dependency ratio of 80.6.It is 87.1 and 74.9 for males and females respectively. This means that on the average almost one person from the active population takes care of one person from the inactive population in the municipality. Child dependency ratio in the municipality is 70.4 with old age dependency ratio being 9.8.

Fertility, mortality and migration

The population of females between the ages of 12-65 years and above is 39,238 The Total Fertility Rate in the municipality for women aged 12-65 years and above is 2.8 births per woman. The GFR for the females between the ages of 15-49 years is 106.9 whiles the CBR is 26.6.

Mortality

There were 866 household deaths in the last 12 months preceding the census night. There is also a crude death rate of exactly eight percent, this is slightly lower than the regional average of 8.2.

Migration

Out of the total population enumerated in the municipality, 33,574 are migrants representing 31.1 percent of the total population in the municipality. Migrants born elsewhere in the region but residing in the Municipality represent 18.1 percent of the migrant population. Those who have stayed for 20 years and above (24.8%) account for 25.6 percent, followed by those who have stayed for five to nine years (16.6%) while 12.9 percent have stayed less than one year.

9.2.2 Social characteristics

Size of household

In total there are 26,753 household with a household population of 107,095 in the Municipality and an average household per house of 1.7. The average household per house in urban is 2.3 and that of the rural is 1.3. The population per house in the Municipal is 6.8 and average household size is 4.0. The average household size in the urban (3.7 persons per household) is lower than the rural (4.5 persons per household) areas

Household composition

More (41.7%) of the households members are children of the household head. A quarter (25.0%) of household members are household heads. There are more male heads (30.5%) than female heads (19.9%). The proportion of male children is 44.3 percent higher than female children (39.3%). Grandchildren constitute 10.0 percent of household population. The least household composition in the Municipality is adopted/fostered children with just 0.3 percent of the population.

Household structure

More than half (51.3%) of the population in the Municipality live in extended family households while those who live in the nuclear family households constitute 48.6 percent. Almost a third (29.3%) of the households consist of the nuclear family (head, spouse and children).

Marital status

There are 73,730 people aged 12 years and older with 43.3 percent married and 38.9 percent never married. Males among this age group is 39,238 and 34,492 for females

Nationality

Exactly 96.0 percent of the total population is Ghanaians by birth. More females (96.1%) than males (95.9%) are Ghanaians by birth. About two percent (1.9%) of the population has dual nationality. Ghanaian by naturalization also forms approximately one percent (0.6%) ECOWAS, Africa other than ECOWAS and others also constitute 1.1 percent, 0.3 percent and 0.2 percent respectively.

Literacy status by sex

Literacy among the population 11 years and older is 82.5 percent while 17.5 percent are not literate. About 89.2 percent (89.2%) of the male population is literate while almost 11 percent (10.8%) are illiterate. Again, almost 77 percent (76.5%) of the total female population in the Municipality are literate while almost 24 percent (23.5%) are illiterate.

9.2.3 Economic characteristics

Economically active by sex

The economically active population 15 years and older is 71.8 percent. Of this, 68.4 percent are employed and 3.4 percent unemployed. About three-fourth (73.8%) of the male population are economically active with a corresponding 70.1 percent for females. Almost five percent (4.7%) of the economically active population is unemployed. Exactly four percent of the male economically active population is unemployed while 5.3 percent of the female economically active population is also unemployed

Economically not active by sex

The economically not active population 15 years and above is 28.2 percent. More females (29.9%) than males (26.2%) are economically not active.

Occupation

West Akim Municipal economy is agrarian. The Municipal has 43.8 percent of the employed population as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers. This is followed by Service and sales workers recording 18.3 percent. The skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers are dominated by males (53.5%) while 34.9 percent represents the females. However the female population in the service and sales, craft and related trades and elementary occupations form 56.2 percent while males represent 24.2 percent

Industry

It is estimated that 44.6 percent of the total population 15 years and older are into agriculture forestry and fishing industry. Out of this, 54.8 percent are males and 35.3 percent females. This is followed by wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicle and motorcycles representing 19.1, out of which 9.3 percent males and 28.2 percent are females.

9.2.4 Information Communication Technology

Ownership of mobile phones

The proportion of the population 12 years and above that have mobile phone in the Municipal is 43.8 percent. Out of this, 48.8 percent of the male population has mobile phones compared to 39.4 percent of the female population.

Usage of internet facilities

The population 12 years and above using internet facility in the Municipality is 3.3 percent. Of this, 4.8 percent are males compare to 1.9 percent of females.

Household ownership of desktop or laptop computer

At the Municipal level, only 3.9 percent of households own desktop/laptop computers. Out of this, 4.8 percent who have access to desktop/laptop computers are male headed households while 2.6 percent who have access to desktop/laptop computers are female headed households.

Household ownership of fixed telephone lines

Less than one percent (0.5%) of households have fixed telephone lines. Out of this, 0.7 percent who have access to fixed telephone lines are male headed households compare to 0.3 percent who have access to fixed telephone lines and are female headed households.

9.2.5 Disability

The proportion of persons with disability in the Municipality is 3.1 percent which is slightly less than the regional average of 3.6 percent. There are 2,898 persons with disability in West Akim Municipal of which 53.1 percent are females compare to 46.9 males.

Type of disability

Data was gathered on six major types of disability. These are sight, hearing, and speech, physical, intellectual and emotional. Out of 2,898 persons with disability in the Municipality, sight disability leads with 35.7 percent, followed by physical disability (30.8%), speech 16.1 percent, hearing (13.6%), and intellectual (12.4%) in the municipality. However, persons with unspecified disability constitutes (10.5%) of the population.

Disability by school attendance

About 34.9 percent of the disabled population has never attended school with 65.1 percent ever attended school. Approximately 25.8 percent of the male disabled population has never attended school and 74.2 percent has ever attended school. However, 42.9 percent of the total female population with disability has never attended school with 57.1 percent ever attended school.

9.2.6 Agricultural activities

Households in agriculture

There are 26,753 households in the Municipality. Exactly 57.0 percent are engaged in agricultural activities. Out of the agricultural households in the Municipal, 64.4 percent of rural households are engaged in agricultural activity with almost 36 percent (35.6%) in the urban areas

Type of agricultural activity

Four types of agricultural activity was considered. These are crop farming, tree farming, fish farming and livestock rearing. Fourteen Thousand, Six Hundred and Fifty Six (14,656) of the agricultural household (15,238) in the Municipal are engaged in crop farming. Approximately 66 percent (65.6%) of crop farmers are in the rural areas with 34.4 percent in the urban areas. Almost four-fifth (79%) of livestock rearers are also in the rural areas and 21.0 percent in the urban areas. Majority (60.5%) of agricultural households in tree planting are in the urban areas with almost 40 percent (39.5%) in the rural areas. Household in fish farming for both urban and rural is 50 percent each.

9.2.7 Housing conditions

Housing stocks

Approximately 3.3 percent (15,999) of the houses in the Eastern region (431,697) constitutes the Municipal housing stock. The urban housing units in the Municipal is 6,446 constituting 40.2 percent whiles 9,553 housing units can be located in the rural areas also forming 59.8 percent of the Municipal total. The population per house in the Municipal is 6.8 with average household size of exactly 4.0. The urban and rural average household sizes are 3.7 and 4.5 for and respectively

Types of dwelling units

The types of dwelling units in the Municipal ranges from separate housing unit to other types of dwelling units not listed. Compound houses are the most common type of dwelling unit in

the Municipal. It accounts for greater percentage of all the dwelling units in the Municipal with 63.7 percent. This is followed by separate houses with 25.2 percent and the third most common dwelling unit is semi-detached house which constitutes 5.1 percent. Three out of every four (76.7%) persons in urban areas of the Municipal live in compound house with a corresponding figure of 47.8 percent dwelling in the rural areas.

Main source of lighting by municipal

Electricity is the main source of lighting in the Municipal. Almost sixty percent (59.9) of the households use electricity as their main source of lighting. Approximately 29.5 percent also use kerosene lamp and 9.2 percent use flashlight/ torch. The proportion of households that uses the remaining categories such as candles, electricity (generator), solar energy, firewood, crop residue and other sources constitute almost two percent (1.9%) of the total household. Approximately 75.2 percent of households in the urban areas use electricity (main) as their main source of lighting compared to 40.3 percent of rural households. Higher proportions of households in the rural areas use kerosene lamp (42.5%) as their main source of lighting compared to 18.9 percent of their urban counterparts.

The main source of cooking fuel

Wood, charcoal and gas are the main sources of fuel used in the municipal. These three sources of cooking fuel constitute 93.7 percent. Almost five percent (4.9%) of the total households in the Municipal do not cook. A greater proportion of rural households use wood (81.3%) as their main source of cooking fuel followed by charcoal (11.1%). In the urban areas more than half of the urban households use charcoal (54.2%) as the most common source of cooking fuel followed by wood (20.1%). Wood and charcoal are the most common source of cooking fuel in rural areas than the urban areas.

Main source of drinking water

Approximately 20.6 percent of households in the Municipality rely on rivers/streams for drinking and followed by bore-hole/pump/tube well representing 18.8 percent. About 17.1 percent of the household depends on protected well in the Municipality, 16.1 percent on pipe-borne outside dwelling, 11.9 percent depend on sachet water and only a little more than six percent (6.3%) depend on public standpipe for drinking in the Municipality. Almost five percent (4.8%) percent of households depend on pipe-borne inside dwelling for drinking and other domestic use. However bottled water (0.2%) and tanker supply/vendor providers (0.0%) constitute the lowest sources of drinking water in the Municipality.

Main source of water for other domestic use

Exactly 33 percent of households in the Municipality rely on protected well as the main source of water for other domestic use. This followed by rivers/streams representing almost 22 percent (21.5%). Approximately 20.7 percent of the household depends on borehole/pump/tube well in the Municipality, pipe-borne outside dwelling constitute 11.1 percent. Less than 10 percent (8.8%) of the households depend on pipe-born water inside dwelling and public tab/ stand pipe for other domestic use.

Bathing and toilet facilities

Different types of bathing facilities are available in the municipality, the commonest being the shared separate bathroom in the same house represent (42.5%) followed by own bathroom for exclusive use representing (22.9%), shared open cubicle represent (19.2%), followed by open space around house representing (6.4%) and private open cubicle represent (6.1%).

Three main toilet facilities are available to households in the municipality, these are the public toilet (WC, KVIP, Pit/Pan) (34.9%), pit latrine (34.4%) and KVIP (17.7%).

Households in the municipality who use WC are (6.2%) whereas households that use bucket/pan are less than one percent (0.8%). Approximately six percent (5.6%) constitute a proportion of households who do not have toilet facilities in the municipality.

9.3 Recommendation

Based on the summary and findings, the following are recommended to be implemented to ensuring the overall development of the Municipal. The characteristics of the population of the West Akim Municipal as observed at the Ghana 2010 Population and Housing Census have implications for the general wellbeing of the people in the Municipal. They also suggest that policies are required to manage the population to ensure that its human resource potentials can be fully realized for the economic progress of the Municipal and the entire nation. The goals of any such policies must therefore be within the general human development agenda of Ghana.

The human resource potential has not been realized since the educational and other socioeconomic characteristics that are indicators of human resource quality are generally low. Since the Municipal has considerable natural resources that can be tapped for development, investment in education and other basic needs, including housing, amenities and facilities for the benefit of the population will eventually lead to economic progress in the Municipal. Also the education directorate in the Municipal should take it as a responsibility to improve girl child education since there is a wide gap between the sexes in education.

Since most of the population is residing in the rural areas it therefore becomes important for policy makers to enhance their development by providing them the necessary facilities that will help generate employment and raise their living standard.

The increases of population under 15 years have a strong impact on dependency ratio and therefore decision makers and development planners should adopt appropriate policies to curb this situation.

Develop appropriate technologies and infrastructure to accommodate the needs of older persons and persons with disabilities especially in education since most of PWDs have never attended school.

Policy planners should factor into the programmes of the Municipality to construct more boreholes in the Municipality since a significant percentage (20.6%) of the population depend on rivers/streams as their main source of drinking water.

Due to the indiscriminate disposal of waste, it is recommended that, the authorities in charge should procure more refuse containers for the communities.

Support and strengthen coverage and quality of basic education; as well as apprenticeship programmes; adopt and implement measures that give young people life skills, and access to school-to-work transition programmes, entrepreneurship programmes, and vocational training. This includes closing gender gaps at all levels of education.

9.4 Conclusion

The 2010 Population and Housing Census has provided vital information that help deal with social and economic challenges that the people of West Akim are confronted with since it has

provided important data to consider and plan for the population dynamics. Population dynamics which involve the changes in the size, location and age of populations — have to inform sustainable development goals, targets and indicators, as well as development strategies, policies and programmes. Without knowledge of how many people are living in our communities, where they are living and how old they are, we cannot hope to meet the needs of them. The Population data also has revealed inequalities among groups within the population and can track progress towards national and international development goals and targets. By disaggregating relevant data by age, sex, location of people and socio-economic variables, it is possible to highlight important differences between different population groups, design more targeted policies to address discrimination and provide support for disadvantaged populations. It is believed that the above recommendations would be implemented to ensure the development of West Akim Municipal.

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APPENDICES

Table A1: Household composition by type of locality

Household Composition	Total country	Region	District		
			Total	Urban	Rural
Total	5,467,136	26,753	26,753	14,717	12,036
Household with head and a spouse only	208,340	979	979	552	427
Household with head and multiple spouse only	-	-	-	-	-
Household with head spouse(s) and biological/adopted children only	1,337,416	6,444	6,444	3,027	3,417
Household with head spouse(s) biological/adopted children and relatives of the head only	762,847	2,889	2,889	1,197	1,692
Household with head spouse(s) biological/adopted children relatives and nonrelatives of the head	47,570	177	177	93	84
Household with head spouse(s) and other composition	165,052	839	839	461	378
Head only	960,700	5,355	5,355	3,359	1,996
Household with head and biological/adopted children only	707,214	4,017	4,017	2,454	1,563
Household with head biological/adopted children and relatives of the head only	603,295	3,034	3,034	1,649	1,385
Household with head biological/adopted children relatives and nonrelatives of the head	41,189	165	165	110	55
Household with head and other composition but no spouse	633,513	2,854	2,854	1,815	1,039

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table A2: Highest level of education by sex and disability type

	Total	Never attended	Nursery	Kinder-garten	Primary	JSS/JHS	Middle	SSS/SHS	Secondary	Voc/Tech/Comm	Post middle/sec cert	Post-secondary diploma	Bachelor degree	Post graduate (Cert. Diploma Masters PHD etc.)
Both sexes														
Total	99,237	16,143	2,590	6,565	28,900	21,256	12,758	5,496	1,240	1,248	1,157	1,177	608	99
No disability	96,401	15,152	2,569	6,507	28,308	20,934	12,212	5,382	1,182	1,205	1,106	1,149	602	93
With a disability	2,836	991	21	58	592	322	546	114	58	43	51	28	6	6
Sight	1,020	398	6	15	167	62	256	45	18	14	27	8	1	3
Hearing	389	168	4	4	86	50	45	12	8	2	5	3	2	0
Speech	449	171	3	18	128	37	48	16	6	6	10	4	2	0
Physical	875	355	7	8	153	85	175	30	20	19	8	8	4	3
Intellectual	353	129	5	9	86	35	42	25	7	10	4	1	0	0
Emotional	450	109	6	9	110	76	74	28	10	6	15	6	1	0
Other	296	94	1	12	75	40	54	8	6	3	1	2	0	0
Male														
Total	47,576	5,286	1,334	3,349	13,936	10,164	7,077	2,985	892	613	659	754	454	73
No disability	46,254	4,945	1,322	3,308	13,666	10,015	6,755	2,928	847	583	629	738	449	69
With a disability	1,322	341	12	41	270	149	322	57	45	30	30	16	5	4
Sight	463	128	2	6	63	25	161	27	13	12	18	6	1	1
Hearing	174	62	4	4	37	25	25	5	7	1	2	0	2	0
Speech	229	66	3	15	63	26	28	12	5	6	3	0	2	0
Physical	407	108	6	6	77	50	103	12	16	14	2	6	4	3
Intellectual	177	53	2	5	47	18	25	15	5	5	1	1	0	0
Emotional	201	35	3	7	51	32	33	11	8	4	13	4	0	0
Other	129	30	1	10	33	15	32	1	4	2	0	1	0	0
Female														
Total	51,661	10,857	1,256	3,216	14,964	11,092	5,681	2,511	348	635	498	423	154	26
No disability	50,147	10,207	1,247	3,199	14,642	10,919	5,457	2,454	335	622	477	411	153	24
With a disability	1,514	650	9	17	322	173	224	57	13	13	21	12	1	2
Sight	557	270	4	9	104	37	95	18	5	2	9	2	0	2
Hearing	215	106	0	0	49	25	20	7	1	1	3	3	0	0
Speech	220	105	0	3	65	11	20	4	1	0	7	4	0	0
Physical	468	247	1	2	76	35	72	18	4	5	6	2	0	0
Intellectual	176	76	3	4	39	17	17	10	2	5	3	0	0	0
Emotional	249	74	3	2	59	44	41	17	2	2	2	2	1	0
Other	167	64	0	2	42	25	22	7	2	1	1	1	0	0

Table A3: 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	Asamankese	46,061	21,025	25,036	12,785	5,281
2	Osenase	8,085	3,884	4,201	1,932	1,165
3	Ekoso	4,404	2,098	2,306	1,041	742
4	Akanteng	3,713	1,813	1,900	890	797
5	Oworam	2,603	1,313	1,290	588	388
6	Quarshie	2,038	1,010	1,028	471	310
7	Topease	1,979	984	995	451	282
8	Bunso	1,873	970	903	418	349
9	Awahem	1,665	829	836	364	291
10	Brekumanso	1,634	731	903	375	302
11	Kobireso	1,549	758	791	384	341
12	Kakoase Anoma Kwadwo	1,294	650	644	294	205
13	Pabi	1,227	613	614	252	198
14	Amako	1,125	522	603	241	200
15	Amanfrom	1,058	585	473	201	160
16	Adiembra No.2	868	412	456	198	134
17	Akwadum Fofoto	865	430	435	187	146
18	Yaw Tano	833	404	429	204	114
19	Akantanyensua	823	413	410	157	107
20	Gbedevi Akura	809	407	402	169	207

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table A4: Population by age group in the 20 largest communities

S/No.	Community Name	All ages	Age Group															
			0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+
1	Asamankese	46,061	5,791	5,289	5,541	5,096	4,217	3,628	3,111	2,704	2,337	1,900	1,790	1,273	999	609	659	1,117
2	Osenase	8,085	1,071	1,019	1,059	923	729	526	472	409	374	368	274	217	176	122	142	204
3	Ekoso	4,404	721	664	582	398	239	283	220	221	197	221	210	126	98	65	67	92
4	Akanteng	3,713	488	478	483	390	305	292	235	221	191	158	150	80	78	44	47	73
5	Oworam	2,603	408	362	332	249	200	158	152	148	134	101	97	68	51	30	52	61
6	Quarshie	2,038	284	294	246	202	159	119	89	133	102	82	98	47	57	29	35	62
7	Topease	1,979	313	280	268	208	138	128	114	100	98	82	73	50	31	24	21	51
8	Bunso	1,873	284	265	236	163	117	111	122	91	96	90	87	58	45	30	26	52
9	Awahem	1,665	214	195	206	160	122	110	119	92	62	71	70	58	59	38	33	56
10	Brekumanso	1,634	226	220	202	176	120	108	67	98	80	81	66	41	50	31	28	40
11	Kobireso	1,549	206	197	180	188	123	109	81	92	82	72	50	42	43	26	26	32
12	Kakoase Anoma Kwadwo	1,294	224	187	160	129	89	82	82	80	65	64	46	15	27	8	18	18
13	Pabi	1,227	179	191	174	119	71	73	51	75	65	49	77	36	27	17	11	12
14	Amako	1,125	158	146	171	92	70	60	49	67	73	49	39	38	26	24	30	33
15	Amanfrom	1,058	161	143	134	118	67	94	32	48	42	37	42	35	32	18	10	45
16	Adiembra No.2	868	149	110	130	102	65	47	43	50	34	39	31	16	20	10	13	9
17	Akwadum Fofoto	865	128	127	121	86	54	55	55	44	33	40	37	10	18	9	23	25
18	Yaw Tano	833	144	102	100	94	54	61	53	49	37	29	29	20	15	11	9	26
19	Akantanyensua	823	167	113	97	81	59	63	46	31	28	33	23	20	25	5	14	18
20	Gbedevi Akura	809	97	119	131	88	68	31	49	34	47	47	13	11	15	15	16	28

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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