



2010

POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS

DISTRICT ANALYTICAL REPORT

AHANTA WEST



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, with district-level analytical reports based on the 2010 PHC data to facilitate their planning and decision-making.

The District Analytical Report for the Ahanta West District is one of the 216 district census reports aimed at making data available to planners and decision makers at the district level. In addition to presenting the district profile, the report discusses the social and economic dimensions of demographic variables and their implications for policy formulation, planning and interventions. The conclusions and recommendations drawn from the district report are expected to serve as a basis for improving the quality of life of Ghanaians through evidence-based decision-making, monitoring and evaluation of developmental goals and intervention programmes.

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

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

Dr. Philomena Nyarko
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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

STMA	Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Authority
CBD	Central Business District
GREL	Ghana Rubber Estate Limited
APED	Association of Progressive Entrepreneurs in Development
ISSER	Institute of Scientific, Social and Economic Research
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African State
PHC	Population and Housing Census
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
GFR	General Fertility Rate
CBR	Crude Death Rate
LEAP	Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty Programme
NHIS	National Health Insurance Scheme
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
PWD	Persons with Disabilities
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GSGDA	Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda

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 Ahanta West District, is 106,215 representing 4.5 percent of the region's total population. Males constitute 48.1 percent and females represent 51.9 percent. There are almost equal proportions of the population living in urban and rural areas. The district has a sex ratio of 92.4. The population of the district is youthful (41.4%) depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a small number of elderly persons (6.3%). The total age dependency ratio for the District is 84.7, the dependency ratios for the males and females are 88.3 and 81.4 respectively.

Fertility, mortality and migration

The Total Fertility Rate for the district is 3.9. The General Fertility Rate is 118.1 births per 1000 women aged 15-49 years which is the second highest for the region. The Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 29.3 per 1000 population. The crude death rate for the district is 6.4 per 1000. From age 14 to age 34 years, more female deaths are observed than males. Though rising, female deaths remain lower throughout the rest of the older ages than male deaths. Minority of migrants (30.7) living in the district were born in another region while 64.3 percent were born elsewhere in the Western Region. Most of the migrants from other regions come from Central region (38.1), and the least come from Upper west (0.9%).

Household Size, composition and structure

The district has a household population of 103,710 with a total number of 26,095 households. The average household size in the district is 4.0 persons per household. Children constitute the largest proportion of the household structure accounting for 43.5 percent. Heads form about 25.2 percent. Nuclear households (head, spouse(s) and children) constitute 35.8 percent of the total household population in the district.

Marital status

About five in ten (46.3%) of the population aged 12 years and older are married, 37.2 percent have never married, 5.4 percent are widowed, 5.5 percent are divorced and 2.2 percent are separated. By age 25-29 years, more than half of females (68.0%) are married compared to a little below half of males (47.7%). At age 65 and above, widowed females account for as high as 55.9 percent as compared to widowed males account for only 14.0 percent. . Among the married, 32.6 percent have no education while about 8.9 percent of the unmarried have never been to school. More than half of the married population (85.0%) are employed, 3.3

percent are unemployed and 11.7 percent are economically not active. A greater proportion of those who have never married (59.5%) are economically not active with 5.2 percent unemployed.

Nationality

The proportion of Ghanaians by birth in the district is 96.9 percent. Those who have naturalized constitute 0.4 percent and the non-Ghanaian population in the district is 1.4 percent.

Literacy and education

Considering the population 11 years and above, 73.4 percent are literate and 26.6 percent are non-literate. The proportion of literate males is higher (83.4 %) than that of females (64.5%). Five out of ten people (50.6%) indicated they could speak and write both English and Ghanaian languages. Of the population aged 3 years and above in the district, 22.8 percent have never attended school, 40.8 percent are currently attending and 36.4 percent have attended in the past.

Economic Activity Status

About 75.3 percent of the population aged 15 years and older are economically active while 24.7 per cent are economically not active. Of the economically active population, 94.0 percent are employed while 6.0 percent are unemployed. For those who are economically not active, a larger percentage of them are students (48.0%), 18.6% perform household duties and 5.8 percent are disabled or too sick to work. Six out of ten unemployed are seeking work for the first time.

Occupation

With respect to the employed population, about 36.4 percent are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers, 22.1 percent in service and sales, 19.5 percent in craft and related trade, and 2.0 percent are engaged as managers, professionals, and technicians.

Employment status and sector

Considering the population 15 years and older 63.5 percent are self-employed without employees, 19.9 percent are employees, 5.8 percent are contributing family workers, 2.8 percent are casual workers and 0.6 percent are domestic employees (house helps). Men constitute the highest proportion in each employment category except the contributing family workers and apprentices and self-employed without employees. The private informal sector is the largest employer in the district, employing 89.8 percent of the population followed by the public sector with 6.7 percent.

Information Communication Technology

Considering the population 12 years and above, 40.0 percent have mobile phones. Men who own mobile phones constitute 47.9 percent as compared to 33.1 percent of females. About 3 out of every 100 (3.4%) of the population 12 years and older use internet facilities in the district. Only 983 households representing 3.8 percent of the total households in the district have desktop/laptop computers.

Disability

About three 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 lower (2.7%) than females (3.0%). The types of disability in the district include sight, hearing, speech, physical, intellect, and emotion. Persons with sight disability recorded the highest of 42.7 percent followed by physical disability (34.1%). There are more males with physical, intellectual and emotional disabilities than females in both the urban and rural localities. Of the population disabled, 47.8 percent have never been to school.

Agriculture

As high as 47.2 percent of households in the district are engaged in agriculture. In the rural localities, 6 out of ten households (56.8%) are agricultural households while in the urban localities two out every 10 (24.1%) of households are into agriculture. Most households in the district (94.4%) are involved in crop farming. Poultry (chicken) is the dominant animal reared in the district

Housing

The stock of houses in the Ahanta West District is 19,946 representing 5.3 percent of the total number of houses in the Western region. The average number of persons per house is 5.2

Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units

Close to half (45.8%) of all dwelling units in the district are compound houses; 37.1 percent are separate houses and 9.1 percent are semi-detached houses. About half (64.0%) of the dwelling units in the district are owned by members of the household; 18.7 percent are owned by private individuals; 13.5 percent are owned by a relative who is not a member of the household and only 1.6 percent are owned by public or government. Less than one percent (0.5%) 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 or concrete accounting for 55.9 percent with mud brick or earth constituting 38.8 percent of outer walls of dwelling units in the district. Cement (93.1%) and mud/earth (4.2%) are the two main materials used in the construction of floors of dwelling units in the district. Metal sheets are the main roofing material (50.5 %) for dwelling units in the district.

Room occupancy

One room constitutes the highest percentage (59.3%) of sleeping rooms occupied by households in housing units in the district. About 15.6 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 (70.2%), kerosene lamp (20.6%) and flashlight/torch (7.4%). The main source of fuel for cooking for most households in the district is wood (49.5%). The proportion for rural (61.6%) is higher than that of urban (20.2%). The four main sources of water in the district are borehole, river stream, public tap and pipe borne water. About a third of households (30.2%) drink water from boreholes.

The most important toilet facility used in the district is public toilet (WC, KVIP, Pit, Pan) representing 36.3 percent followed by pit latrine (14.0%). About 30.6 percent of the population in the district have no toilet facility. Two out of five households (33.9%) in the district share separate bathrooms in the same house while 19.4percent own bathrooms for their exclusive use.

Waste disposal

The most widely used method of solid waste disposal is by public dump in the open space accounting for 61.0 percent. About 7 in 100 households (6.8%) dump their solid waste indiscriminately. House to house waste collection accounts for 1.6 percent. For liquid waste disposal, throwing waste onto the compound (45.3%) and onto the street (24.9%) are the two most common methods used by households in the district.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The Ahanta West District was formerly under the jurisdiction of the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Authority (S-T.M.A.). It was carved out of the then Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Authority in 1988, now the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly (STMA) and became an autonomous District under Legislative Instrument LI 1395.

1.2 Physical Features

1.2.1 Location of the District

Ahanta West District is located at the southernmost point of the country and the entire West African Sub-Region with its capital at Agona Nkwanta (Agona Ahanta). It is bounded to the East by the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly (STMA), the West by the Nzema East Municipal, and to the North by Mpohor Wassa East District and Tarkwa-Nsuaem Municipal and the Gulf of Guinea to the South. The district has a total land area of 554 square kilometers representing about 2.3 percent of the surface area of the Western Region. The district is about 15 minutes' drive from the commercial capital of the Western Region, Takoradi and about 25 minutes' drive from the administrative capital, Sekondi. Its proximity to the Central Business District (CBD) of Takoradi enhances business and trading activities.

1.2.2 Climate

The district falls within the south-western equatorial climatic zone of Ghana. The highest mean temperature is 34°C which is recorded between March and April, while the lowest mean temperature of 20°C is experienced in August. Relative humidity is very high averaging between 75 percent to 85 percent in the rainy season and 70 percent to 80 percent in the dry season. The district is located in the wettest region of Ghana. It experiences a double maxima rainfall of over 1,700 millimeters. The rainy season is between the months of April and September, with the greatest volume recorded between April and July. This abundant rainfall supports agrarian activities in the district. However, the high rainfall imparts badly on most of the roads in the district, since most of these roads are not tarred, and become unmotorable and hence accessibility to most parts of the district becomes difficult during the rainy season.

1.2.3 Relief

The district lies within the coastal belt of the country at an elevation ranging between zero and 121 metres above sea level. The land is generally flat with a few isolated hills between 20 to 40 metres above sea level at Banso, Egyambra, Cape Three Point and Princess Akatekyi. There is also a plateau at Egyambra. Some of these hills are the sources of some rivers in the District. The coastline has features such as capes and bays especially at Cape Three Points. As a result of the sandy nature of the coast, it has attracted a number of beach resorts along the coastlines.

1.2.4 Drainage

The largest river in the district is Butre which enters the sea at Butre. However, there are other seasonal rivers such as Apesuro, Whin, Suoni, Nyila, Nyame and Yani which drains the district. The district has also considerable lagoons such as Ehonle, Mabowodindo, Akpluho, Mfuma and Nana Pete at Butre. The drainage pattern is basically dendritic. The drainage system impacts positively on the soil fertility for agriculture.

1.2.5 Soils, Geology and Minerals

There are four main categories of rocks and soil types which underlie the district namely; lower Birimian, Dixcove granite, Cape Coast granite and Tarkwaian. More than half of the soil consists of Cape Coast granitic soils; these rock types are very rich in minerals. The District therefore has large deposits of gold, traces of iron and kaolin hence the upsurge of prospecting activities in the area. Substantial clay deposits which could be developed into ceramics can also be found in parts of the district, notably around Beahu area.

The combination of these underlying rocks has resulted in the formation of different soil types which support different agricultural production. For example :sandy – clay – loam and the moderately well drained clayey loam type of soils are very good for the production of cocoa, coffee, citrus, oil palm, rubber and food crops.

1.2.6 Vegetation

The district lies within two broad vegetation belt namely, the Strand and Mangrove and the Rainforest. The northern part of the district falls largely within the High Rain Forest Vegetation Zone, and therefore supports the cultivation of rubber and oil palm with the part closer to the sea lying within the Strand and Mangrove which also supports coconut growth.

1.3 Political and Administrative Structure

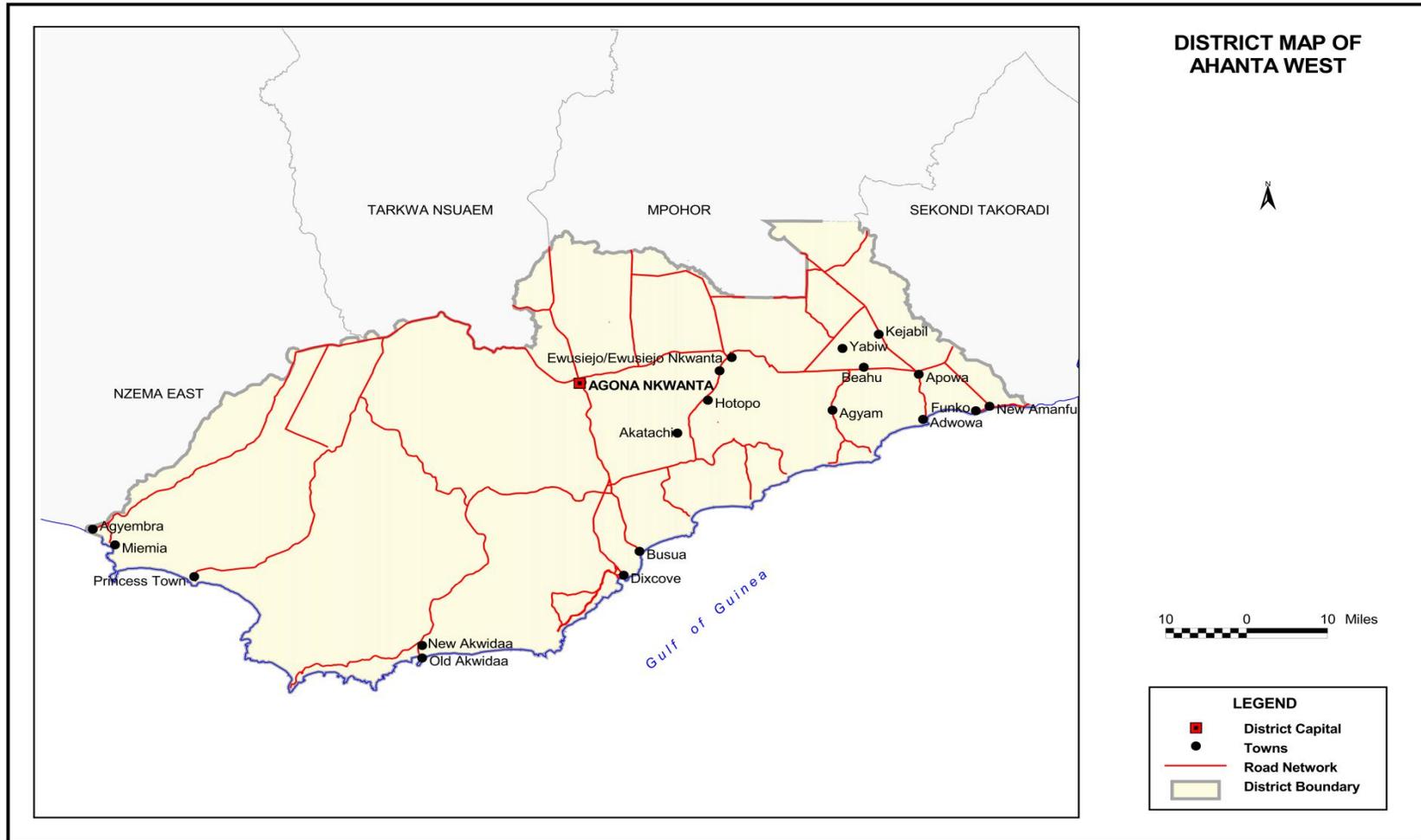
The District Assembly is the highest decision making body headed by the District Chief Executive. It has 10 departments which include; central administration, works department, physical planning unit, health and agriculture. There are six area councils namely Apowa, Ewusiejoe, Busua, Dixcove, Abura and Agona Nkwanta and thirty-six electoral areas in the district. There are 52 assembly members, made up of 36 elected and 16 who are appointed by the government. Of the 52 assembly members, there are 47 males and 5 females.

1.4 Cultural and Social Structure

1.4.1 Chieftaincy

There are three (3) paramountcies in the district. These are Busua, Upper Dixcove and Lower Dixcove with the Ahantahene as the overlord of the area. The Paramount Chiefs have their respective divisional and sub-chiefs under their jurisdiction.

Figure 1.1: Relief Map of Ahanta West District



1.4.2 Ethnicity

The main ethnic group of the district is Ahanta and the main language spoken is also the Ahanta. However, Ewe (is also spoken by the people of Egyambra, Princess Town and Princess Aketakyi and Fante by the people of Adjua, Funkoe, New Amanful and Dixcove. Other ethnic groups in the District include Nzema, Ga-Dangme, Ewes, Guans, and other Akans. Although, the district is ethnically diverse, the Ahantas and Ewes are the indigenous people, constituting the largest groups. There is ethnic tolerance and peaceful co-existence among the different ethnic groups residing in the district which provides a congenial environment for development.

1.4.3 Religion and Festivals

With regards to religion, majority of the people are Christians. However, other religion practiced includes Islam, traditional religion. The Kundum festival, which is celebrated between September and October each year, is characterized by drumming, dancing and feasting.

1.4.4 Education

The Ahanta West District has a number of basic and second cycle institutions. Currently, there are 92 Kindergartens, 85 Primary schools, 53 junior high schools. The District also has two senior high schools and one technical & vocational institute. These comprise both public (149) and private institutions (84). With regards to teachers, there are a total of 1,461 with 803 being untrained.

1.4.5 Health

To promote health care delivery, the district has a number of health facilities and services which has been brought to the door steps of the people. There are a total of 16 health facilities in the district with the district hospital located at Dixcove. The district has 3 health centres, 8 CHPS compound and 4 clinics. Out of these facilities, 3 are privately owned with 82 outreach posts. The district has two doctors and 58 nurses, which result in a doctor / patient ratio of 1:63,183.5 and a nurse/patient ratio of 1:2,179. The problem confronting the health sector is not only inadequate health facilities, but also inadequate personnel who are reluctant to accept postings to remote areas without facilities, medicines and medical equipment.

1.4.6 Water and Sanitation

The District has about one hundred and forty seven (147) boreholes of which one hundred and thirteen (113) are functional. There are also sixteen (16) hand-dug wells fitted with pump but out of these, six (6) of the wells are functional as well as over 500 unprotected wells.

Currently, out of the 123 communities in the Ahanta West District, only four (4) comprising Agona-fie, Agona Nkwanta, Apowa and Dixcove are provided with 14 skip containers. The district has about 250 dump sites; only 14 of these sites are approved whereas the remaining 231 are unapproved. It also has only one final disposal site for solid waste at Damte in Agona Nkwanta. There are 2 small incinerators currently in use at Princess Town and Princess-Aketakyi.

1.4.7 Telecommunication

Telecommunication is improving in the district with regards to mobile phone facilities. About 75 percent of the communities have mobile telecommunication network. Mobile phone networks

operating in the district are TiGO, Vodafone, Airtel, Expresso as well as MTN. Access to postal services is woefully inadequate in the district. Agona Ahanta, Apowa and Dixcove are the only communities with postal services.

1.5 Economy

1.5.1 Agriculture

Agriculture is the major economic activity undertaken in the district. The major food crops produced include cassava, plantain, maize, yam, rice and vegetables such as carrots, cabbage, tomatoes and pepper. Food crop production is generally on subsistence level with output per yield substantially low in the district due to traditional methods of farming which is predominantly slash and burn with little mechanization. The average farm size is about one acre per farmer.

The predominant cash crop is oil palm cultivated on a large-scale plantation by Norpalm Ghana Limited. This is followed by rubber cultivation which is on small scale by out growers to large sized plantations mostly owned by the Ghana Rubber Estate Limited (GREL). One notable challenge, however, is that the increasing use of land for rubber plantations may deprive food crop farmers access to land for cultivation in the future. There is also an increasing demand for land for other non-agricultural activities in the district especially in the wake of the Oil find in the region.

Livestock production is also carried out in the district; but on a small scale by individual households.

Fishing activities is also a very important economic activity for communities along the coastline in the district. Dixcove is noted all over the country as one of the oldest and well-known fishing communities. (MTDP 2010-2013, AWDA). Other important fishing communities include New Amanful, Funkoe, Butre, Princess Aketekyi, Akwidaa, Adjua, Egyambra and Cape Three Points.

1.5.2 Tourism

The district is one of the endowed districts with tourism potentials in Ghana. Out of the eight forts in the region, four are located in the district namely; Fort Dorothie, Fort Metal Cross, Fort Batenstein (Butre) and Fort Groot Fredriechsburg. Also, Cape Three Point Forest reserve has been identified as potential for ecotourism development or used as a canopy walk as it is the case at the Kakum National Park located in the Twifo-Hemang Lower Denkyira District in Central Region. Besides that, Ricerca è Corperazione (RC) have developed West Coast Tourism in three communities (Butre, Busua and Dixcove) with the view of promoting water-based tourism. Another potential for ecotourism development is the planned plantation of GREL and Norpalm Ghana Limited. Other potential sites that could be developed are the monkey sanctuary and the crocodile pond at PrincessTown and Egyambra respectively. Furthermore, the district has nice sandy beaches located at ; Funkoe Beach, Adjua Beach Victoria Beach at New Amanful, Busua Beach, Miemia Beach, Princess Town Beach, Cape Three Point Beach, Asemkow Beach (Hideout and Fanta Folly) and the Green Turtle and Safari Beach at Akwidaa.

1.5.3 Trade and Commerce

Ahantaman Rural Bank is the only rural bank in the district. Daasgift, Central Financial Consult, Cooperative Credit Union and Association of Progressive Entrepreneurs in Development (APED) are other non -banking institutions that give micro-financing to Small and Medium Scale Businesses in the district.

Other economic activities include trading such as hairdressing, dressmaking, carpentry, block-making, auto-electricians, fitting, car-body spraying, and refrigeration mechanics.

1.5.4 Industry

The following are the large scale industries in the district: - Norpalm Ghana Limited and GREL. These two industrial establishments produce edible/industrial oil palm and industrial rubber respectively. A number of small scale industries for agro processing can be found in most parts of the district. Specific locations include Azani, Freboho, Aketenchie, Himakrom and Ewusiejoe among others.

Cassava which is the largest tuber crop produced and consumed in the district is processed on small scale into gari and starch. Akpeteshie, (a local gin) distillation is also an important agro-based activity in the district

1.5.5 Road network

The district road networks are mostly feeder roads, some of which are in poor condition making some of the settlements inaccessible during rainy season. Easy access to the district capital from other communities becomes difficult and expensive during the wet periods. The only asphalted road is the section of the Trans West African road that passes through the district capital Agona Ahanta. Other paved roads include the Agona Ahanta to Dixcove and Busua Link, Aboadi-Ayiem stretch, Funkoe and New Amanful roads. It is important to note that out of the total road network in the district only 15 percent is paved.

1.6 Census methodology and definition of concepts

1.6.1 Application of UN Principles and recommendations

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 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.

1.6.3 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-organized 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-sectorial 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.

1.6.4 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).

1.6.5 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.

1.6.6 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 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.

1.6.7 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 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.

1.6.8 Method of census 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.

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

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

1.6.9 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%).

1.6.10 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.

1.6.11 Definition of concepts

Introduction

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

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

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

Region

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

District

In 1988, Ghana changed from the local authority system of administration to the district assembly system. In that year, the then existing 140 local authorities were demarcated into 110 districts. In 2004, 28 new districts were created; this increased the number of districts in the country to 138. In 2008, 32 additional districts were created bringing the total number of districts to 170. The 2010 Population and Housing Census was conducted in these 170 administrative districts (these are made-up of 164 districts/municipals and 6 metropolitan areas). In 2012, 46

new districts were created to bring the total number of districts to 216. There was urgent need for data for the 46 newly created districts for planning and decision-making. To meet this demand, the 2010 Census data was re-programmed into 216 districts after carrying out additional fieldwork and consultations with stakeholders in the districts affected by the creation of the new districts.

Locality

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

Population

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

Household

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

Head of Household

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

Household and Non-household population

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

- (a) Educational Institutions
- (b) Children's and Old People's Homes
- (c) Hospitals and Healing Centres
- (d) Hotels

(e) Prisons

(f) Service Barracks

(g) Soldiers on field exercise

(h) Floating Population: The following are examples of persons in this category:

- i. All persons who slept in lorry parks, markets, in front of stores and offices, public bathrooms, petrol filling stations, railway stations, verandas, pavements, and all such places which are not houses or compounds.
- ii. Hunting and fishing camps.
- iii. Beggars and vagrants (mentally sick or otherwise).

Age

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

Nationality

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

Ethnicity

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

Birthplace

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

Duration of Residence

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

Religion

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

Marital Status

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

Literacy

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

Education

School Attendance

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

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

Level of Education

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

Activity Status

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

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

The economically not active were persons who did not work and were not seeking for work. They were classified by reasons for not being economically active. Economically not active

persons included homemakers, students, retired persons, the disabled and persons who were unable to work due to their age or ill-health.

Occupation

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

Industry

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

Employment Status

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

Employment Sector

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

Disability

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

Information Communication Technology (ICT)

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

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

Fertility

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

Mortality

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

Agriculture

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

Housing Conditions and Facilities

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

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

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

1.7 Organization of the Report

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

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

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

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

CHAPTER TWO

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

2.1 Introduction

In order to facilitate development planning, programme and policy implementation of a district, it is important that population size, composition and distribution are analyzed. The population size and growth of a country is influenced by fertility, mortality and migration of the people over a period of time. The 2010 Census is a de facto count in that all persons were recorded in the household where they spent census night, whether they were normally resident in that household or not.

This chapter analyzes the demographic characteristics as captured during the 2010 Population and Housing Census in the Ahanta West District. It covers the population size and distribution, the age-sex structure, dependency ratios, rural-urban place of residence, fertility, mortality, and migration.

2.2 Population Size and Distribution

Table 2.1 gives the distribution of the population of Ahanta West by age and sex. The total population in the district is 106,215 persons. Females (55,216) constitute 51.9 percent whilst males (50,999) constitute 48.1 percent of the population. The age distribution of the population in the district show a pattern of a reduction in the population across the age groups as age increases which is mainly influenced by the effect of mortality. The age group 0-4 has the highest proportion (15.1%), followed by age group 5-9 (13.9%), and 10-14 (12.4%) in that order for the district. Persons aged 85 years and older constitute the lowest proportion (0.6%) of the population. A similar characteristic is observed in the distribution of the population by sex.

Table 2.1: Population size and distribution by sex

Age Group	Both Sexes		Males		Females	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Ages	106,215	100.0	50,999	100.0	55,216	100.0
0 - 4	16,060	15.1	8,122	15.9	7,938	14.4
5 - 9	14,777	13.9	7,445	14.6	7,332	13.3
10 - 14	13,177	12.4	6,590	12.9	6,587	11.9
15 - 19	11,086	10.4	5,692	11.2	5,394	9.8
20 - 24	9,173	8.6	4,136	8.1	5,037	9.1
25 - 29	8,233	7.8	3,580	7.0	4,653	8.4
30 - 34	6,494	6.1	3,070	6.0	3,424	6.2
35 - 39	6,003	5.7	2,829	5.5	3,174	5.7
40 - 44	4,876	4.6	2,256	4.4	2,620	4.7
45 - 49	3,980	3.7	1,926	3.8	2,054	3.7
50 - 54	3,464	3.3	1,568	3.1	1,896	3.4
55 - 59	2,160	2.0	1,083	2.1	1,077	2.0
60 - 64	2,051	1.9	940	1.8	1,111	2.0
65 - 69	1,261	1.2	546	1.1	715	1.3
70 - 74	1,403	1.3	544	1.1	859	1.6
75 - 79	779	0.7	284	0.6	495	0.9
80 - 84	637	0.6	175	0.3	462	0.8
85 +	601	0.6	213	0.4	388	0.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.3 Age-Sex Structure

Table 2.2 shows that 41.4 percent of the population in the district is aged 0-14 years, and those 15- 24 years constitute 19.1 percent. Those aged 60 years and older constitute only 6.3 percent of the population. The distribution by sex also reveals a similar pattern where most of the population is concentrated in the age group 0-14 years (43.4%) and 15-24 years (19.3%) and 30-59 years (25.0%). The broad age group of 0-24 years is (62.7%) for males and (58.5%) for females. The high proportion of children and youths in the population could put much strain on the district's resources in the provision of educational and social amenities.

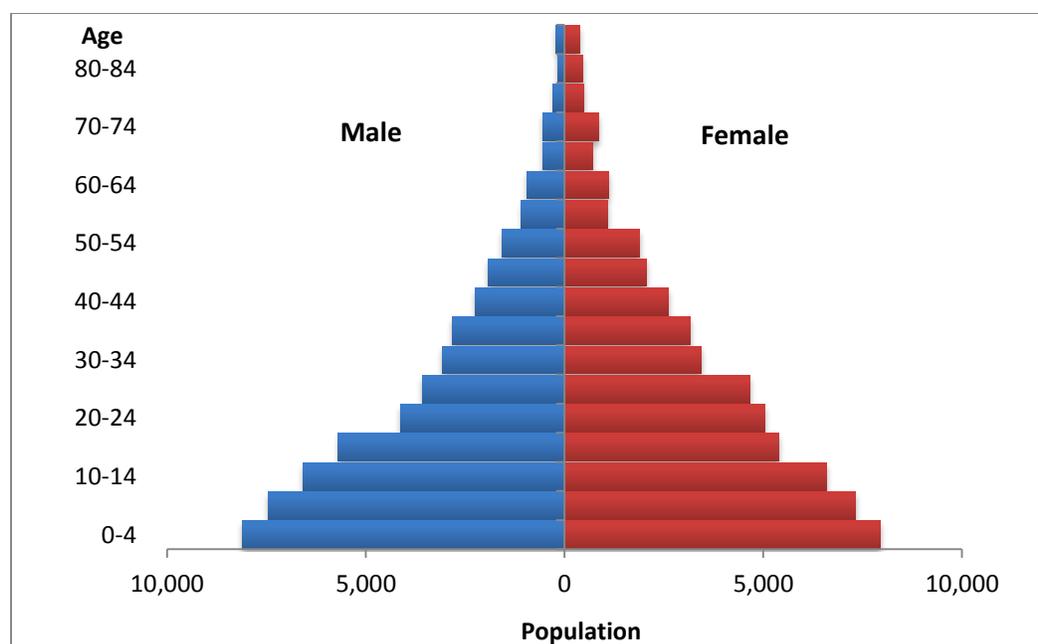
Table 2.2: Age structure by sex and age group

Age Group	Both Sexes		Males		Females	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Ages	106,215	100.0	50,999	100.0	55,216	100.0
Under 15	44,014	41.4	22157	43.4	21857	39.6
15 – 24	20259	19.1	9828	19.3	10431	18.9
25 – 29	8,233	7.8	3,580	7.0	4653	8.4
30 – 59	26,977	25.4	12,732	25.0	14245	25.8
60 +	6,732	6.3	2702	5.3	4030	7.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Figure 2.1 shows the age structure of the population of the district by sex. It indicates that children aged five years and below constitute the largest group in the population while the proportions of the subsequent age group reduce as age increases. The shape of the pyramid which is broad based at the bottom and tapers at the top is a characteristic of a developing country which is basically influenced by high fertility and a declining mortality.

Figure 2.1: Population Pyramid



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.3.1 Age dependency structure

Table 2.3 shows the dependency ratio (the ratio of persons under 15 years plus persons aged 65 years and older to adults aged 15-65 years) in the district. From the table, the overall dependency ratio for the district is 84.7. The dependency ratio for males and females are 88.3 and 81.4 which implies that at least each person within the working population whether male or female is catering for one person within the dependency age bracket. The child dependency ratio is 76.5 for males is 81.8 and females are 71.8 with old age dependency at 8.1 in the district.

Table 2.3: Age dependency ratio by sex

Age Group	Both Sexes		Males		Females	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Ages	106,215	100.0	50,999	100.0	55,216	100.0
0-14	44,014	41.4	22,157	43.4	21,857	39.6
15-64	57,520	54.2	27,080	53.1	30,440	55.1
65+	4,681	4.4	1,762	3.5	2,919	5.3
Total dependency ratio	48,695	84.7	23,919	88.3	24,776	81.4
Child dependency ratio	44,014	76.5	22,157	81.8	21,857	71.8
Old age dependency ratio	4,681	8.1	1762	6.5	2919	9.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 2.4 gives the urban- rural distribution and sex ratio of the population in the district. The table shows that 29.5 percent (31,286) are in urban areas with over 70 percent being rural. The proportion of females in urban areas (52.9%) and rural areas (51.6%) is higher than the proportions for males in urban (47.1%) and (48.4%) in rural areas. The sex ratio which is defined as the number of males per a 100 females also shows that, for both sexes, there are 92.4 males per 100 females. In the urban areas, there are 89.1 males to 100 females, and 93.8 males to 100 females in the rural areas. Overall, there are more females (52.0%) than males (48.0%) in the district with a district sex ratio of 92.4.

Table 2.4: Population size by locality of residence and sex ratio

Region/District/ Sex	All Localities		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	106,215	100.0	31,286	100.0	74,929	100.0
Male	50,999	48.0	14,740	47.1	36,259	48.4
Female	55,216	52.0	16,546	52.9	38,670	51.6
Region	2,376,021		1,007,969		1,368,052	
Sex Ratio	92.4		89.1		93.8	
Percent of regional population	4.5		3.1		5.5	

Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4 Fertility Mortality and Migration

2.4.1 Fertility

The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is the average number of live births among 1,000 women exposed throughout their childbearing years (15-49 years) to the schedule of a given set of age specific fertility rates, assuming no women died during the childbearing years. In other words, it is the average number of children a woman will have given birth by the end of her reproductive years if current fertility rates prevailed.

Table 2.5 presents the total fertility rate, general fertility and the crude birth rate by district. The TFR for the district is 3.9 children per woman and is higher than the regional average of 3.6. The reported crude birth rate is 29.7 per 1000 births while the general fertility rate (GFR) is 98 per 1000 births.

Table 2.5: Reported total fertility rate, general fertility rate and crude birth rate by district and region

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	2,376,021	602,769	63,769	3.6	105.8	26.8
Jomoro	150,107	38,145	4,245	3.7	111.3	28.3
Ellembelle	87,501	22,148	2,381	3.6	107.5	27.2
Nzema East	60,828	15,155	1,734	3.7	114.4	28.5
Ahanta West	106,215	26,356	3,112	3.9	118.1	29.3
Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolis	559,548	158,170	12,883	2.8	81.5	23.0
Shama	81,966	20,778	2,371	3.9	114.1	28.9
Wassa East	81,073	18,717	2,509	4.5	134.0	30.9
Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipal	90,477	22,852	2,278	3.2	99.7	25.2
Prestea/Huni Valley	159,304	39,035	4,898	4.2	125.5	30.7
Wassa Amenfi East	83,478	19,368	2,481	4.4	128.1	29.7
Wassa Amenfi West	92,152	22,124	2,387	3.7	107.9	25.9
Aowin	117,886	28,511	3,253	3.9	114.1	27.6
Sefwi Akontombra	82,467	19,026	2,158	3.6	113.4	26.2
Sefwi Wiawso	139,200	34,406	3,668	3.7	106.6	26.4
Sefwi Bibiani-Anhwiaso-Bekwai	123,272	30,844	2,919	3.2	94.6	23.7
Juabeso	58,435	14,521	1,792	4.2	123.4	30.7
Bia west	88,939	22,021	2,598	3.8	118.0	29.2
Mpohor	42,923	10,324	1,299	4.3	125.8	30.3
Wassa Amenfi Central	69,014	15,867	1,895	4.1	119.4	27.5
Suaman	20,529	5,141	482	3.2	93.8	23.5
Bodi	53,314	12,708	1,556	4.1	122.4	29.2
Bia East	27,393	6,552	870	4.2	132.8	31.8

Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Female population 12 years and older, children ever born, children surviving, age and sex of child

In Table 2.6, the female population 12 years and older by children ever born, children surviving and sex of child is presented. The total number of children ever born to 37,096 women is 100,347 and the number surviving is 82,749 children. The distribution by sex shows that more female children 50,751 than male children 49,596 were born and also more female children 42,143 than male children 40,606 survived. The data shows further that there is a high concentration of children ever born as the age of the woman increases. For instance in age group 35-39, 12,518 children were born to 3,174 women as against 4,956 children born to 5,037 in age group 20-24.

The children surviving for all ages are 82,749. Out of this 49.1 percent are males (40,606) whiles 50.9 percent are females (42,143). For both sexes, the age group with the highest proportion of

children surviving is 60 years and older while the age group with the lowest number of children surviving is also 12-14. It can be deduced that the age group 12-14 has the lowest number of children ever born and children surviving which may be attributed to the fact that most of those within this age bracket are attending school and also may not have reached their reproductive period.

Table 2.6: Female population 12 years and older by age, children ever born, children surviving and sex of child

Age	Number of Females	Children Ever Born			Children Surviving		
		Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female
All Ages	37,096	100,347	49,596	50,751	82,749	40,606	42,143
14-Dec	3,737	23	11	12	19	7	12
15-19	5,394	896	470	426	807	423	384
20-24	5,037	4,956	2,517	2,439	4,519	2,243	2,276
25-29	4,653	9,352	4,782	4,570	8,560	4,306	4,254
30-34	3,424	10,951	5,509	5,442	9,807	4,896	4,911
35-39	3,174	12,518	6,099	6,419	11,119	5,364	5,755
40-44	2,620	12,628	6,234	6,394	10,868	5,326	5,542
45-49	2,054	10,234	5,031	5,203	8,666	4,254	4,412
50-54	1,896	10,275	4,995	5,280	8,287	4,026	4,261
55-59	1,077	5,963	2,873	3,090	4,656	2,280	2,376
60+	4,030	22,551	11,075	11,476	15,441	7,481	7,960

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4.2 Mortality

Mortality, as one of the three components of population growth, plays an important role in determining the growth of a population. The level and pattern of mortality is a reflection of the health status of a population. Thus, indices of mortality have been used as indicators of socio-economic development. (National Analytical Report, 2010 PHC).

Mortality data are needed, among others, for the analyses of potential growth of population and construct population projections as well as to formulate policies, develop, implement and evaluate public health programmes and projects. Mortality data are used in calculating probable life span of population which is then used by institutions such as insurance companies to set premiums. Results from mortality analyses underpin disease control programmes and in identifying viable health and related programmes which advance human survival. National Analytical Report, 2010 PHC).

Table 2.7 presents data on total population, deaths in households and crude death rate by district in the Western Region. Out of the total population of 106,215, deaths occurring in households in the district is 683. The death rate (also called the crude death rate) is the number of deaths per 1,000 population in a given year. The crude death rate in the district is 6.4 and is slightly higher than the regional average.

Table 2.7: Total population, deaths in households and crude death rate by district

District	Total Population	Deaths in households	*Crude death rate
All Districts	2,376,021	14,825	6.2
Jomoro	150,107	1,452	9.7
Ellembelle	87,501	471	5.4
Nzema East	60,828	425	7.0
Ahanta West	106,215	683	6.4
Sekondi Takoradi Metropolis	559,548	2,721	4.9
Shama	81,966	590	7.2
Wassa East	81,073	926	11.4
Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipal	90,477	351	3.9
Prestea/Huni Valley	159,304	974	6.1
Wassa Amenfi East	83,478	589	7.1
Wassa Amenfi West	92,152	530	5.8
Aowin	117,886	551	4.7
Sefwi Akontombra	82,467	316	3.8
Sefwi Wiawso	139,200	890	6.4
Sefwi Bibiani-Ahwiaso Bekwai	123,272	1,053	8.5
Juabeso	58,435	355	6.1
Bia West	88,939	595	6.7
Mpohor	42,923	390	9.1
Wassa Amenfi Central	69,014	375	5.4
Suaman	20,529	98	4.8
Bodi	53,314	364	6.8
Bia East	27,393	126	4.6

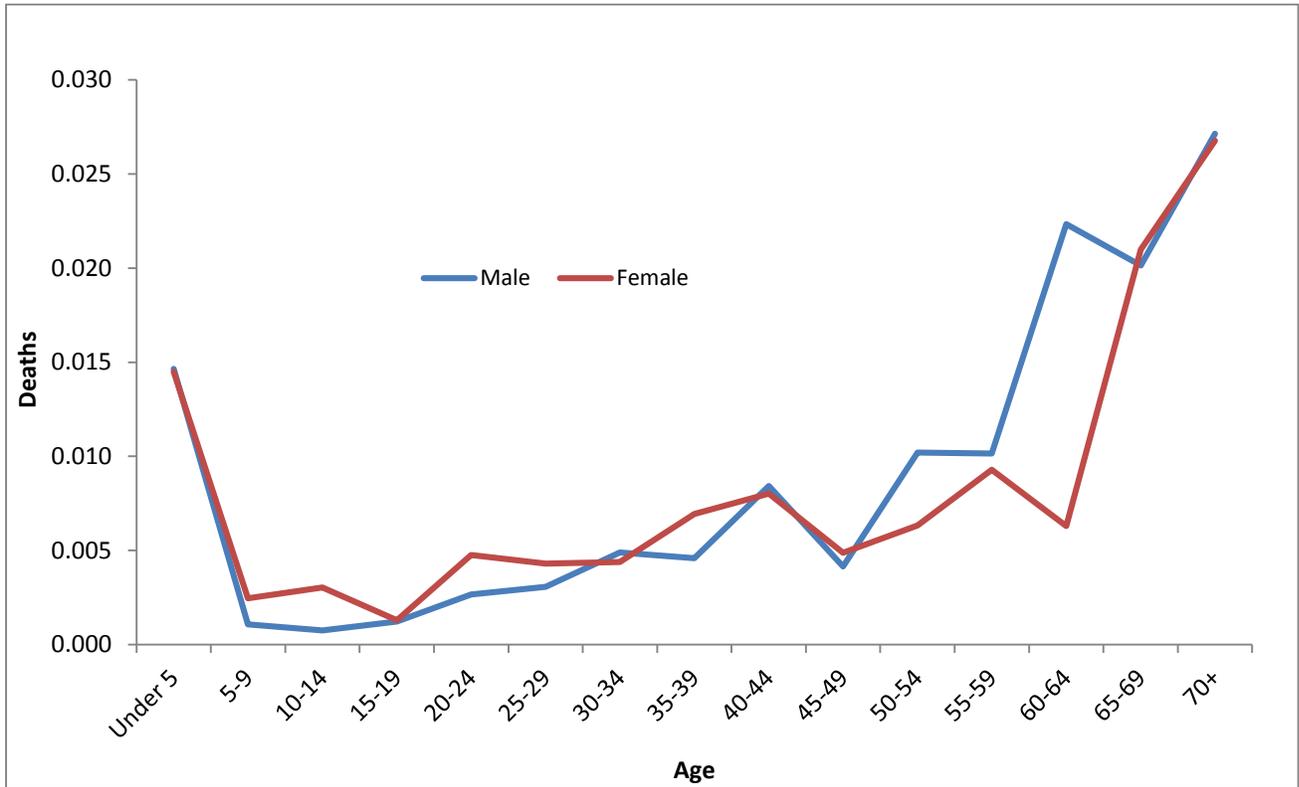
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Note: * Number of deaths per 1,000 population

Reported age specific death rate

Figure 2.2 gives a graphical presentation of the age specific death rates by sex in the district. From the figure, between age groups 5-9 to 25-29, female death rates are higher than males within the same age groups. However, there are more male deaths than females among the age groups 50-54 to 70 years. Female deaths again, rise slightly above that of males from age 70 and above.

Figure 2.2: Reported age specific death rate by sex



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Death in households

Table 2.8 shows the causes of deaths in households by district. The total number of household deaths reported in the district shows that 12.0 percent of the deaths is attributed to accidents, violence, homicide, or suicide whiles 88.0 percent represents all other causes deaths.

Table 2.8: Deaths in Households

District	Total deaths	Death due to			
		Accident/violence/ homicide/suicide		All other causes	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Districts	14,825	1,982	13.4	12,843	86.6
Jomoro	1,452	182	12.5	1,270	87.5
Ellembelle	471	56	11.9	415	88.1
Nzema East	425	82	19.3	343	80.7
Ahanta West	683	82	12.0	601	88.0
Sekondi Takoradi Metropolis	2,721	381	14.0	2,340	86.0
<i>Kwesimintsim</i>	1,028	141	13.7	887	86.3
<i>Takoradi</i>	439	75	17.1	364	82.9
<i>Sekondi</i>	445	53	11.9	392	88.1
<i>Essikadu-Ketan</i>	809	112	13.8	697	86.2
Shama	590	74	12.5	516	87.5
Wassa East	926	63	6.8	863	93.2
Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipal	351	38	10.8	313	89.2
Prestea/Huni Valley	974	165	16.9	809	83.1
Wassa Amenfi East	589	104	17.7	485	82.3
Wassa Amenfi West	531	62	11.7	469	88.3
Aowin	561	107	19.1	454	80.9
Sefwi Akontombra	316	42	13.3	274	86.7
Sefwi Wiawso	890	126	14.2	764	85.8
Sefwi Bibiani-Ahwiaso-Bekwai	1,053	95	9.0	958	91.0
Juabeso	361	37	10.2	324	89.8
Bia west	595	133	22.4	462	77.6
Mpohor	390	44	11.3	346	88.7
Wassa Amenfi Central	374	35	9.4	339	90.6
Suaman	88	14	15.9	74	84.1
Bodi	358	42	11.7	316	88.3
Bia East	126	18	14.3	108	85.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

2.4.3 Migration

Table 2.9 shows the birthplace by duration of residence of migrants. The total number of migrants in the district is 29,320. Of this figure, 18,849 representing 64.3percent are migrants born elsewhere in the Western region whiles 10,471 (30.7%) born in another region.

Out of the number of migrants enumerated in the district, 15.3 percent have lived there less than one year. Thirty-two percent have been residents for 1-4 years, and 36.0 percent have lived for more than 10 years. Central region has the highest number of migrants (3,993) in the district representing the highest proportion of 38.1 percent whereas migrants from the Upper West region (0.9%) are the lowest. However, they stay much longer as over forty percent (44.2) stays in the region for 10 years and over.

From the table, it demonstrates that, the highest proportions of migrants in all the categories have lived in the district for 1-4 years. This could be attributed to the oil find in the district. The oil

find in the district has attracted migrants in recent years as total migrants in the district with less than 5 years stay constitute 47.1 percent.

Table 2.6: Birthplace by duration of residence of migrants

Birthplace	Number	Duration of residence (%)				
		Less than 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20+ years
Total	29,320	15.3	31.8	16.9	18.5	17.5
Born elsewhere in the region	18,849	15.1	31.5	17.0	18.0	18.5
Born elsewhere in another region						
Western	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Central	3,993	16.6	30.8	16.2	19.9	16.6
Greater Accra	960	17.5	34.8	14.3	20.2	13.2
Volta	1,232	12.7	27.0	20.7	18.6	21.0
Eastern	795	15.1	37.7	14.8	19.1	13.2
Ashanti	1,244	17.0	34.2	15.7	16.2	17.0
Brong Ahafo	221	20.8	35.3	15.8	15.8	12.2
Northern	296	9.8	39.9	20.3	15.2	14.9
Upper East	181	18.8	29.8	17.7	15.5	18.2
Upper west	95	7.4	30.5	17.9	28.4	15.8
Outside Ghana	1,454	14.2	32.2	19.2	22.2	12.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER THREE

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Introduction

This chapter deals with the social characteristics of the population. These are the household size, composition and headship, marital status, nationality, religious affiliation and literacy and education of the Ahanta West district collected in the 2010 Population and Housing census. A good understanding of the characteristics on the district may assist planners and policymakers in their work concerning the decisions and recommendations on the district.

3.2 Household Size, Composition and Headship

3.2.1 Household size

Table 3.1 provides information on household size by locality in the Ahanta West District. The district has a household population of 103,710 with a total number of 26,095 households. The average household size from the 2010 PHC data in the district is 4.0 persons per household. The average household per house is 1.3 with urban dwellers having a higher proportion than rural dwellers.

Table 3.1: Household size by locality

Categories	Region	District	Urban	Rural
Total household population	2,307,395	103,710	30,229	73,481
Number of households	553,634	26,095	7,646	18,449
Average households per house	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.2
Average household size	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.2 Household composition and sex

Table 3.2 present data on household population by composition and sex. Out of the total household population, 25.2 percent are household heads. Children constitute the highest proportion of the household with 43.5 percent. Furthermore, 8.6 percent of households are grandchildren. Among the household heads, 32.6 percent of the male population are household heads while 18.3 percent of the female population are household heads. Male children constitute 45.2 percent which is slightly higher than females (41.9%). Households with other relatives account for 5.1 percent, while son/daughter in law has the lowest proportion (0.2%) of the household composition in the district.

Table 3.2: Household population by composition and sex

Relationship to head	Number			Percent		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	103,710	49,738	53,972	100.0	100.0	100.0
Head	26,095	16,196	9,899	25.2	32.6	18.3
Spouse (wife/husband)	11,685	1,104	10,581	11.3	2.2	19.6
Child (son/daughter)	45,128	22,500	22,628	43.5	45.2	41.9
Parent/Parent in-law	817	102	715	0.8	0.2	1.3
Son/Daughter in-law	242	70	172	0.2	0.1	0.3
Grandchild	8,882	4,323	4,559	8.6	8.7	8.5
Brother/Sister	3,100	1,654	1,446	3.0	3.3	2.7
Step child	845	411	434	0.8	0.8	0.8
Adopted/Foster child	525	257	268	0.5	0.5	0.5
Other relative	5,235	2,423	2,812	5.1	4.9	5.2
Non-relative	1,156	698	458	1.1	1.4	0.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.2.2 Household Structure and Sex

Table 3.3 present data on household population by structure and sex. The district has more than a third (35.8%) of the household population consisting of the Head, spouse(s) and children. Males who are heads constitute 38.0 percent of males and female heads 33.8percent of the female household population. The second highest household structure is the extended family, (head, spouse(s), children and head's relatives) forming 15.9 percent with no significant variations between males and females. The single parent extended household structure is 14.7 percent with the proportion of female heads higher than their male counterparts. This is followed by single parent nuclear 13.0percent where female and male heads constitute (14.6% and 11.3%) respectively. The household composition and structure reveal a situation where the nuclear family is the dominant feature but also shows that the extended family system is still important in the district. The data further shows significant proportions of single parent nuclear family and single parent extended family in the district.

Table 3.3: Household population by structure and sex

Household structure	Number			Percent		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	103,710	49,738	53,972	100.0	100.0	100.0
Head only	5,074	3,333	1,741	4.9	6.7	3.2
Head and a spouse only	2,230	1,123	1,107	2.2	2.3	2.1
Nuclear (Head spouse(s) children)	37,150	18,884	18,266	35.8	38.0	33.8
Extended (Head spouse(s) children Head's relatives)	16,524	8,001	8,523	15.9	16.1	15.8
Extended + non relatives	963	499	464	0.9	1.0	0.9
Head spouse(s) and other composition	3,020	1,457	1,563	2.9	2.9	2.9
Single parent Nuclear	13,514	5,627	7,887	13.0	11.3	14.6
Single parent Extended	15,204	5,872	9,332	14.7	11.8	17.3
Single parent Extended + non relative	736	318	418	0.7	0.6	0.8
Head and other composition but no spouse	9,295	4,624	4,671	9.0	9.3	8.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3 Marital Status

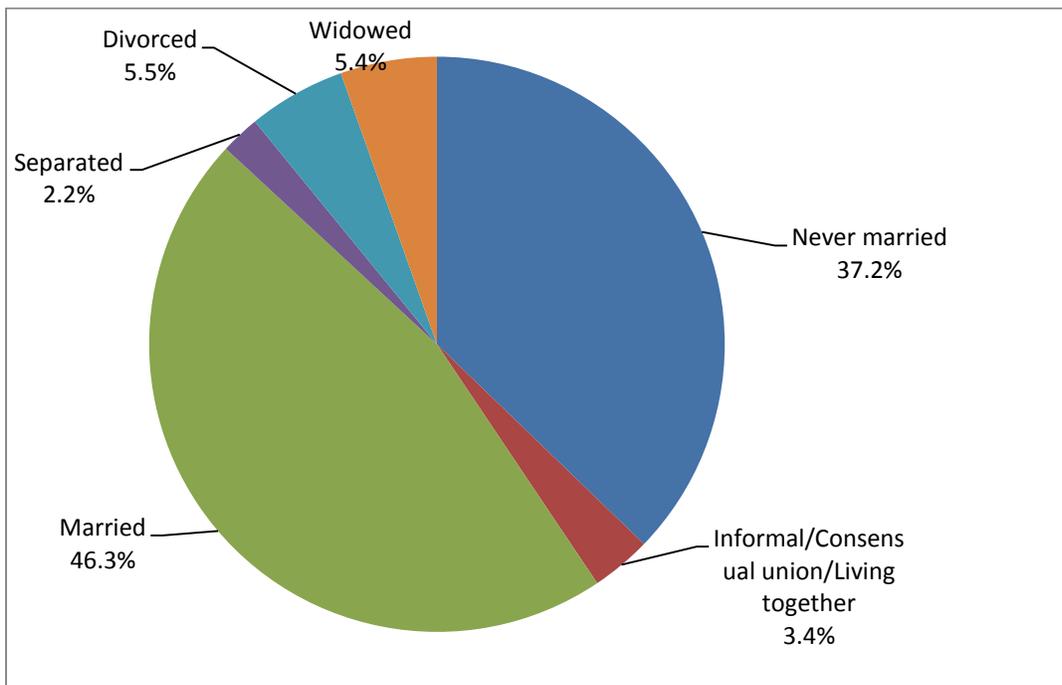
Generally, marriage in Ghana is recognized as a union between a man and a woman with the knowledge of both families. In Ghana, the purpose of marriage is to provide companionship for the couple, the means to offer support for each other, and a legitimate avenue for sexual satisfaction and reproduction. Marriage includes formal unions that are legal, traditional or religiously sanctioned, and informal cohabitating unions. The 2010 Census collected information on the marital status of persons from age 12 years and above.

3.3.1 Persons 12 years and older, sex, age-group and marital status

Table 3.4 show persons 12 years and older by sex, age group and marital status. Out of the total number of 69,784 persons 12 years and older enumerated in the census, the highest proportion of 46.3 percent is married. This is followed by the never married who constitute 37.2 percent, the divorced (5.5%), widowed (5.4%), informal/consensual unions (3.4%) and separated (2.2%) being the lowest. This is presented in Figure 3.1.

Table 3.4 further shows that for both sexes, age group 12-14 has the highest percentage (91.9%) of persons who have never been married. This is expected and could be attributed to the fact that most of the people in this age group may be in school or learning a trade and are therefore not ready for marriage. As shown in the table, the proportions never married declines with increasing age. For instance (86.6%) of those aged 15-19 years have never been married whereas only 1.7 percent of those aged 50-59 years have never been married. For the married, it is observed that the proportion increase as people grow older. Hence the proportion that is 15-19 years and married is only (10.3%) while it is (66.2%) for those who are aged 55- 59 years.

Figure 3.1: Marital status of persons 12 years and older



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

The proportions divorced and widowed also increase with age. The age distribution of marital status by sex depicts same pattern for both sexes.

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
Total	69,784	100.0	37.2	3.4	46.3	2.2	5.5	5.4
12-14	7,583	100.0	91.9	0.5	7.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	11,086	100.0	86.6	2.3	10.3	0.4	0.2	0.2
20 - 24	9,173	100.0	56.7	7.0	32.9	1.4	1.5	0.6
25 - 29	8,233	100.0	29.1	6.3	59.1	2.2	2.7	0.7
30 - 34	6,494	100.0	13.3	4.3	73.4	2.6	4.6	1.7
35 - 39	6,003	100.0	5.5	3.8	78.6	2.6	6.8	2.5
40 - 44	4,876	100.0	3.6	2.5	76.8	4.2	9.1	3.7
45 - 49	3,980	100.0	2.8	2.2	74.3	3.6	11.2	5.9
50 - 54	3,464	100.0	2.5	2.2	66.9	4.2	12.7	11.5
55 - 59	2,160	100.0	1.7	1.6	66.2	3.5	15.0	12.0
60 - 64	2,051	100.0	2.0	1.3	54.4	4.0	16.8	21.5
65+	4,681	100.0	3.5	1.1	35.3	4.1	15.8	40.1
Male								
Total	32,688	100.0	44.8	2.9	45.9	1.5	3.4	1.6
12-14	3,846	100.0	91.4	0.4	8.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	5,692	100.0	92.9	0.6	6.0	0.1	0.2	0.1
20 - 24	4,136	100.0	75.9	4.5	18.4	0.5	0.6	0.2
25 - 29	3,580	100.0	42.7	6.7	47.7	1.3	1.4	0.2
30 - 34	3,070	100.0	19.7	4.2	71.0	1.8	3.0	0.3
35 - 39	2,829	100.0	7.2	4.0	81.2	2.2	4.3	1.2
40 - 44	2,256	100.0	5.1	2.6	82.3	3.0	6.0	1.1
45 - 49	1,926	100.0	3.9	2.2	82.6	2.1	7.1	2.2
50 - 54	1,568	100.0	4.0	2.8	79.3	3.3	8.3	2.2
55 - 59	1,083	100.0	1.7	1.9	81.5	2.8	8.7	3.4
60 - 64	940	100.0	1.6	1.7	74.6	3.1	12.4	6.6
65+	1,762	100.0	5.0	1.6	64.0	4.1	11.4	14.0
Female								
Total	37,096	100.0	30.5	3.8	46.7	2.8	7.3	8.8
12-14	3,737	100.0	92.4	0.5	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
15 - 19	5,394	100.0	80.0	4.1	14.7	0.7	0.2	0.3
20 - 24	5,037	100.0	41.0	9.0	44.8	2.1	2.2	0.9
25 - 29	4,653	100.0	18.5	5.9	68.0	3.0	3.6	1.0
30 - 34	3,424	100.0	7.6	4.4	75.6	3.4	6.0	2.9
35 - 39	3,174	100.0	4.0	3.7	76.4	3.1	9.1	3.8
40 - 44	2,620	100.0	2.3	2.4	72.2	5.2	11.9	6.0
45 - 49	2,054	100.0	1.9	2.1	66.6	5.1	15.1	9.3
50 - 54	1,896	100.0	1.3	1.7	56.5	4.9	16.4	19.2
55 - 59	1,077	100.0	1.8	1.3	50.8	4.3	21.3	20.6
60 - 64	1,111	100.0	2.3	0.9	37.3	4.9	20.5	34.1
65+	2,919	100.0	2.6	0.8	18.0	4.2	18.5	55.9

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3.2 Persons 12 years and older, sex, marital status and level of education

Table 3.5 shows that out of the total number of persons 12 years and older by marital status, a little over half of the population (58.5%) have attained basic education, 27.3 percent of them have no education, 8.4 percent have received secondary education, with only 0.9 percent having tertiary education. It is observed that the number of persons in various categories of those aged 12 years by marital status become smaller as the level of education increases. For example within the population who are married, 54.8 percent have basic education compared to only 1.2 percent who has tertiary education. Similarly, majority (71.5%) of those who have never been married have basic education while a small proportion of 0.7 percent has tertiary education. There are more married males who have basic education than their female counterparts. A higher proportion of females who have never been married (72.8%) have basic education than the males who constitute 70.5 percent. Only 1.0 percent of never married males and 0.4 percent of females have basic education.

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

Sex/Marital status	Number	All levels	No Education	Basic ¹	Secondary ²	Vocational/ Technical/ Commercial	Post middle/ secondary certificate/ diploma ³	Tertiary ⁴
Both Sexes								
Total	69,784	100.0	27.3	58.5	8.4	1.9	3.0	0.9
Never married	25,975	100.0	8.9	71.5	14.2	1.9	2.9	0.7
Informal/consensual union/living together	2,356	100.0	27.2	61.8	6.3	2.2	2.2	0.3
Married	32,310	100.0	32.6	54.8	5.7	2.1	3.7	1.2
Separated	1,532	100.0	49.9	43.1	3.7	1.6	1.6	0.1
Divorced	3,827	100.0	53.9	40.9	2.3	0.9	1.6	0.3
Widowed	3,784	100.0	73.6	23.1	0.9	0.8	1.3	0.3
Male								
Total	32,688	100.0	17.0	64.6	10.5	2.2	4.3	1.4
Never married	14,653	100.0	9.1	70.5	14.4	2.0	3.1	1.0
Informal/consensual union/living together	933	100.0	17.7	67.1	8.1	2.8	3.6	0.6
Married	15,003	100.0	21.6	60.6	7.6	2.6	5.7	1.9
Separated	480	100.0	36.7	50.4	7.7	1.9	3.1	0.2
Divorced	1,111	100.0	35.8	56.1	3.9	1.0	2.8	0.5
Widowed	508	100.0	48.6	41.5	1.6	2.8	3.7	1.8
Female								
Total	37,096	100.0	36.4	53.2	6.5	1.5	1.9	0.4
Never married	11,322	100.0	8.6	72.8	13.9	1.7	2.6	0.4
Informal/consensual union/living together	1,423	100.0	33.4	58.3	5.1	1.8	1.3	0.1
Married	17,307	100.0	42.1	49.8	4.0	1.7	1.9	0.5
Separated	1,052	100.0	55.9	39.8	1.8	1.4	1.0	0.1
Divorced	2,716	100.0	61.2	34.8	1.7	0.9	1.1	0.3
Widowed	3,276	100.0	77.5	20.2	0.8	0.5	0.9	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.3.3 Persons 12 years and older, sex, marital status and economic activity status

Table 3.8 indicates the economic activity status of persons 12 years and older by sex and marital status. Out of a total of 69,784 persons 12 years and older in the district, 64.4 percent are employed, 4.0 unemployed and 31.6 percent economically not active. Of the population 12 years and older who are married, the employed form 85.0 percent with 3.3 percent unemployed, and 11.7 percent economically not active. Those in the informal/consensual union who are employed form 77.8 percent with those unemployed being 7.1 percent. The never married category has 35.3 percent employed with only 5.2 percent unemployed while 59.5 percent in the economically not active group.

Among the male population 12 years and older, those employed are 63.8 percent with the unemployed constituting 4.1 percent. Of this male population, those married who are employed forms 86.3 percent and the never married male who are employed also constitute 38.1 percent. Of the female population 12 years and older, the married who are employed form 92.0 while those unemployed form 0.6 percent and 7.4 percent are economically not active.

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

Sex/Marital status	Total		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes								
Total	69,784	100.0	44,949	64.4	2,813	4.0	22,022	31.6
Never married	25,975	100.0	9,161	35.3	1,353	5.2	15,461	59.5
Informal/consensual union/living together	2,356	100.0	1,832	77.8	168	7.1	356	15.1
Married	32,310	100.0	27,472	85.0	1,055	3.3	3,783	11.7
Separated	1,532	100.0	1,192	77.8	75	4.9	265	17.3
Divorced	3,827	100.0	3,061	80.0	103	2.7	663	17.3
Widowed	3,784	100.0	2,231	59.0	59	1.6	1,494	39.5
Male								
Total	32,688	100.0	20,869	63.8	1,329	4.1	10,490	32.1
Never married	14,653	100.0	5,585	38.1	792	5.4	8,276	56.5
Informal/consensual union/living together	933	100.0	788	84.5	38	4.1	107	11.5
Married	15,003	100.0	12,947	86.3	428	2.9	1,628	10.9
Separated	480	100.0	386	80.4	26	5.4	68	14.2
Divorced	1,111	100.0	858	77.2	38	3.4	215	19.4
Widowed	508	100.0	305	60.0	7	1.4	196	38.6
Female								
Total	37,096	100.0	24,080	64.9	1,484	4.0	11,532	31.1
Informal/consensual union/living together	1,423	100.0	1,044	73.4	130	9.1	249	17.5
Married	17,307	100.0	14,525	83.9	627	3.6	2,155	12.5
Separated	1,052	100.0	806	76.6	49	4.7	197	18.7
Divorced	2,716	100.0	2,203	81.1	65	2.4	448	16.5
Widowed	3,276	100.0	1,926	58.8	52	1.6	1,298	39.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.4 Nationality

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

Table 3.7 shows that 98.6 percent of the population in the district is Ghanaians. Out of this, 96.9 percent are Ghanaians by birth, while those with dual nationality constitute (1.3%) and Ghanaian by naturalization 0.4 percent. The proportion of ECOWAS nationals is 0.7 percent and Africa countries other than ECOWAS constitute 0.4 percent.

There are equal proportions (97.0%) of males and females who are Ghanaians by birth while more females 1.4 percent than males (1.3%) have dual nationality. However, there is a higher proportion of male ECOWAS population (0.9%) as compared to their female counterparts (0.6%). The category of other nationals has the lowest proportion of 0.3 percent in the district.

Table 3.7: Population by nationality and sex

Nationality	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	106,215	100.0	50,999	100.0	55,216	100.0
Ghanaian by birth	102,879	96.9	49,341	96.7	53,538	97.0
Dual Nationality	1,420	1.3	670	1.3	750	1.4
Ghanaian by naturalization	462	0.4	212	0.4	250	0.5
ECOWAS	765	0.7	451	0.9	314	0.6
Africa other than ECOWAS	373	0.4	173	0.3	200	0.4
Other	316	0.3	152	0.3	164	0.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.5 Religious Affiliation

Table 3.8 shows that the dominant religion in the district is Christianity with 78.6 percent of the population professing adherence to the Christian faith. Islam form 3.2 percent of the population in the district. Those who do not profess to any religion form 15.4 percent of the population while the traditionalists make up 1.6 percent. Among the sexes more females are Christians compared to their males counterparts while for Islam and those with no religion there are more males than females.

Table 3.8: Population by religion and sex

Religion	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	106,215	100.0	50,999	100.0	55,216	100.0
No Religion	16,381	15.4	9,594	18.8	6,787	12.3
Catholic	12,706	12.0	5,976	11.7	6,730	12.2
Protestant (Anglican Lutheran etc.)	20,384	19.2	9,578	18.8	10,806	19.6
Pentecostal/Charismatic	29,232	27.5	13,177	25.8	16,055	29.1
Other Christians	21,150	19.9	9,448	18.5	11,702	21.2
Islam	3,381	3.2	1,822	3.6	1,559	2.8
Traditionalist	1,714	1.6	823	1.6	891	1.6
Other (Specify)	1,267	1.2	581	1.1	686	1.2

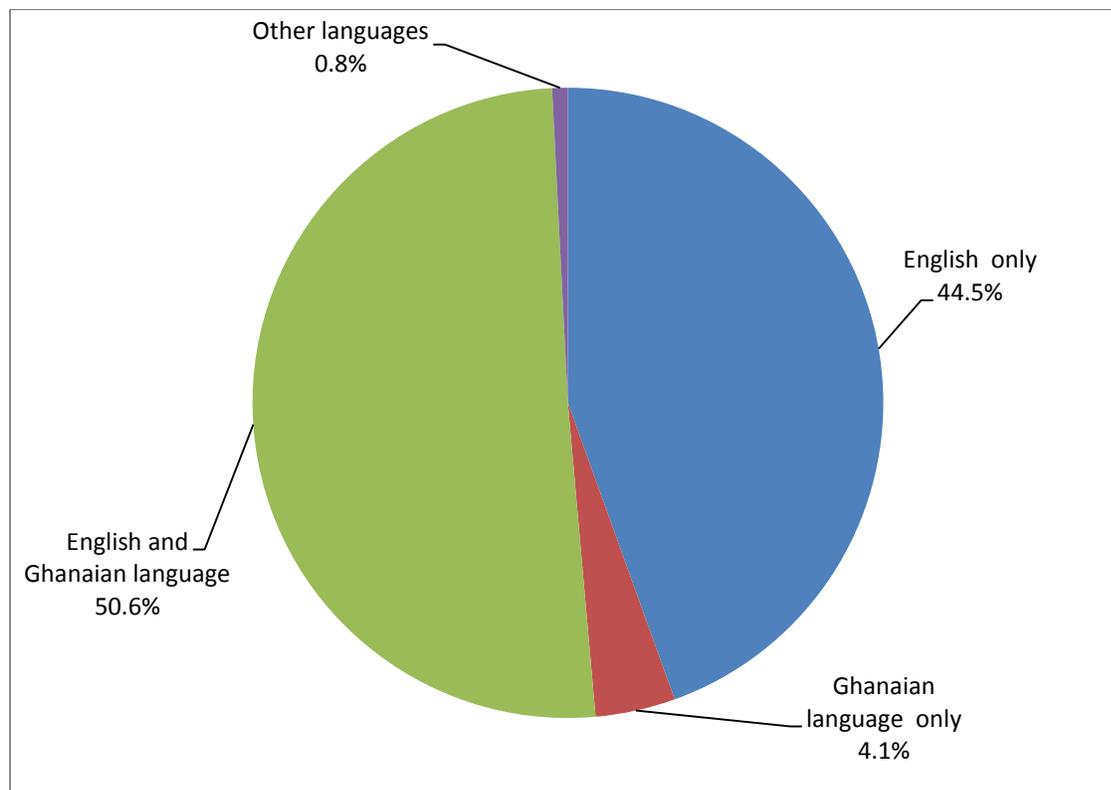
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6 Literacy and Education

3.6.1 Literacy

Table 3.9 show that among the population 11 years and older who are literate, more than half (50.6%) are literate in English and Ghanaian language. This is followed by 44.5 percent who are literate in English only and 4.1 percent who are literate in Ghanaian language only. Other languages put together give a small proportion of 0.8 percent. This is presented in Figure 3.2.

Figure 3.2: literate population of persons 11 years and older



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 3.9 further shows that a higher proportion of males (53.2%) than females (47.7%) are literate in English and Ghanaian language while more females (46.8%) than males (42.5%) are literate in English only. The distribution within the age groups shows that about 50 percent of the literate population can read and write in English and Ghanaian language in all the age groups. The table further shows that nearly forty percent of the population in all the age brackets is literate in English only. The speaking and writing of French is not high in the district as the table depicts that French with other languages constitute about or less than one percent of the literate population across all ages.

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

Age group	None (not literate)	Literate	Total	English only	Ghanaian language only	English and Ghanaian language	English and French	English, French and Ghanaian language
Both sexes								
Total	19,189	52,842	100.0	44.5	4.1	50.6	0.3	0.4
11-14	407	9,423	100.0	53.7	3.2	42.5	0.2	0.4
15-19	959	10,127	100.0	43.0	2.7	53.6	0.2	0.5
20-24	1,581	7,592	100.0	41.8	3.7	53.7	0.4	0.4
25-29	2,033	6,200	100.0	45.0	4.4	49.9	0.4	0.4
30-34	2,025	4,469	100.0	44.4	5.3	49.3	0.6	0.4
35-39	2,084	3,919	100.0	44.1	5.6	49.7	0.5	0.2
40-44	1,937	2,939	100.0	42.7	5.4	51.3	0.1	0.4
45-49	1,505	2,475	100.0	40.0	5.5	53.4	0.3	0.8
50-54	1,453	2,011	100.0	41.1	4.8	53.3	0.1	0.7
55-59	802	1,358	100.0	36.5	4.8	57.6	0.6	0.5
60-64	1,079	972	100.0	38.1	5.2	55.7	0.4	0.6
65+	3,324	1,357	100.0	36.5	5.3	57.4	0.3	0.5
Male								
Total	5,619	28,148	100.0	42.5	3.5	53.2	0.4	0.5
11-14	202	4,723	100.0	53.3	3.1	42.9	0.3	0.4
15-19	402	5,290	100.0	42.3	2.4	54.7	0.2	0.4
20-24	543	3,593	100.0	38.5	3.2	57.6	0.3	0.4
25-29	592	2,988	100.0	42.7	4.0	52.5	0.4	0.4
30-34	637	2,433	100.0	42.5	3.9	52.5	0.7	0.5
35-39	649	2,180	100.0	42.2	4.0	52.8	0.8	0.2
40-44	540	1,716	100.0	41.9	4.0	53.5	0.2	0.5
45-49	461	1,465	100.0	37.9	4.2	56.8	0.3	0.9
50-54	352	1,216	100.0	37.8	4.5	56.7	0.2	0.7
55-59	203	880	100.0	31.3	3.9	63.5	0.7	0.7
60-64	247	693	100.0	38.5	4.6	55.7	0.4	0.7
65+	791	971	100.0	33.1	4.7	61.3	0.2	0.7
Female								
Total	13,570	24,694	100.0	46.8	4.8	47.7	0.3	0.4
11-14	205	4,700	100.0	54.0	3.3	42.2	0.1	0.4
15-19	557	4,837	100.0	43.8	3.1	52.3	0.2	0.5
20-24	1,038	3,999	100.0	44.7	4.3	50.2	0.4	0.5
25-29	1,441	3,212	100.0	47.2	4.6	47.4	0.4	0.3
30-34	1,388	2,036	100.0	46.7	7.1	45.4	0.4	0.4
35-39	1,435	1,739	100.0	46.3	7.6	45.8	0.1	0.1
40-44	1,397	1,223	100.0	43.8	7.4	48.2	0.1	0.4
45-49	1,044	1,010	100.0	43.2	7.3	48.5	0.4	0.6
50-54	1,101	795	100.0	46.0	5.2	48.2	0.0	0.6
55-59	599	478	100.0	46.2	6.5	46.7	0.4	0.2
60-64	832	279	100.0	36.9	6.8	55.6	0.4	0.4
65+	2,533	386	100.0	45.1	6.7	47.7	0.5	0.0

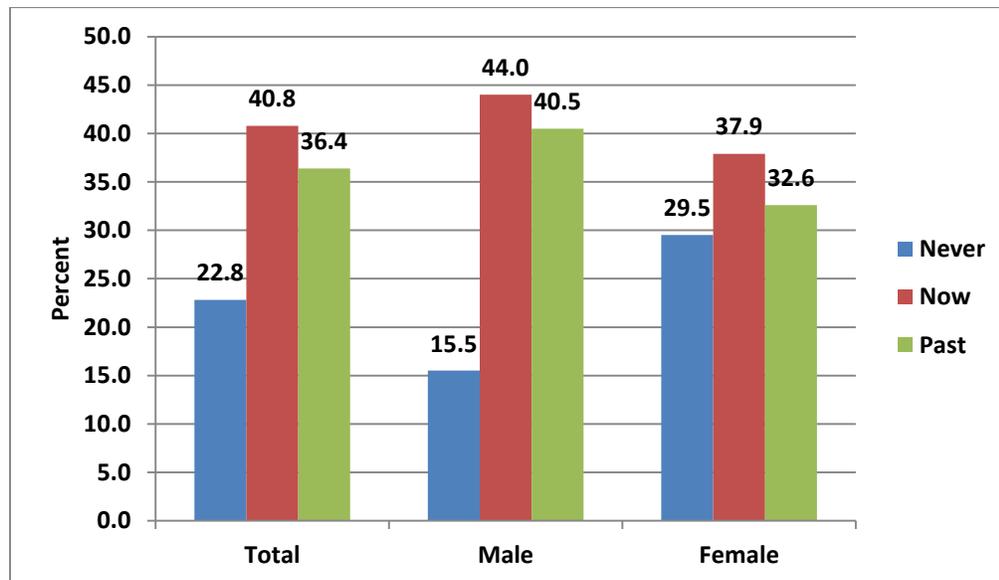
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

3.6.2 Population 3 years and older level of education, school attendance and sex

School attendance

The school attendance profile for the district’s population 3 years and older is presented in Figure 3.3. Of the 96,580 persons aged 3 years and above in the district, 22.8 percent has never attended school, 40.8 percent are currently attending and 36.4 percent have attended in the past. From the figure, females have a lower level of school attendance compared to males.

Figure 3.3: Population 3 years and older by school attendance and sex



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 3.10 shows the population 3 years and older by level of education, school attendance and sex. The table shows that the highest proportion (47.6%) of the population 3 years and older currently attending school are in primary school. This is followed by those in JSS/JHS (17.8%), kindergarten (15.8%), nursery (11.5%) and SSS/SHS (5.5%). Those attending tertiary, vocational/technical and post middle/secondary institutions have values less than two percent. Current school attendance by sex shows that there are no significant differences between males and females in the various categories.

For those who have attended school in the past, JSS/JHS graduates constitute the highest proportion of 34.8 percent, followed by those with Middle school education (25.6%) and 19.7percent for those with primary education. The proportion that have attended SSS/SHS is 8.3 percent while those who have attended Tertiary SSS/SHS are (4.2%) and (2.2%) respectively. The table further shows that more females (24.5%) and (38.7%) have attended primary and JSS/JHS than their male counterparts (15.5%) and (31.4%). A general observation is that, with respect to current and past school attendance, the number of persons in the various categories reduces as the level of education increases. Furthermore, school attendance among males is relatively higher than among females.

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	39,409	100.0	20,303	100.0	19,106	100.0	35,152	100	18,696	100.0	16,456	100.0
Nursery	4,550	11.5	2,339	11.5	2,211	11.6	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0
Kindergarten	6,219	15.8	3,119	15.4	3,100	16.2	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0
Primary	18,758	47.6	9,473	46.7	9,285	48.6	6,924	19.7	2,889	15.5	4,035	24.5
JSS/JHS	7,004	17.8	3,712	18.3	3,292	17.2	12,246	34.8	5,873	31.4	6,373	38.7
Middle	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	8,992	25.6	5,580	29.8	3,412	20.7
SSS/SHS	2,179	5.5	1,231	6.1	948	5.0	2,906	8.3	1,649	8.8	1,257	7.6
Secondary	-	0.0	-	0.0	-	0.0	764	2.2	542	2.9	222	1.3
Vocational/technical/ commercial	187	0.5	114	0.6	73	0.4	1,110	3.2	617	3.3	493	3.0
Post middle/secondary certificate	98	0.2	45	0.2	53	0.3	724	2.1	456	2.4	268	1.6
Tertiary	414	1.1	270	1.3	144	0.8	1,486	4.2	1,090	5.8	396	2.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FOUR

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

4.1 Introduction

The 2010 Population and Housing Census results provide data on the economic characteristics of the population in Ahanta West District. This data provides information on how persons enumerated in the district are economically engaged and the sectors of economic activity. The data is useful for the computation of economic indicators and the determination of the level of development of the district. Factors contributing to employment opportunities in the district include the structure of the population, proportion of the economically active population and the labour market. A careful study of the dynamics of the population and the labour market helps to identify the employment opportunities available and the structure of the economy. This chapter analyses the economic characteristics of the population 15 years and older in the district in respect of type of economic activity, occupation, industry, employment status and sector of employment.

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 5 years and older. Table 4.1 presents data on the activity status of persons aged 15 years and older in the district.

Table 4.1 shows that 75.3 percent of the population 15 years and older is economically active with 24.7 percent being economically not active. Among the economically active group, 94.0 percent are employed while 6.0 percent are unemployed. For those who are unemployed, 61.6 percent are seeking work for the first time and the remaining have worked before and are currently seeking and available for work. Furthermore, a high proportion of the economically not active population (48.0%) is receiving full time education with 17.1 percent are too old/young to work and 18.6 percent constituting those engaged in household chores. The distribution of economic activity status between males and females revealed no significant differences in the various categories.

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

Activity status	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	62,201	100.0	28,842	100.0	33,359	100.0
Economically active	46,815	75.3	21,707	75.3	25,108	75.3
Employed	44,029	94.0	20,394	94.0	23,635	94.1
Worked	42,178	95.8	19,611	96.2	22,567	95.5
Did not work but had job to go back to	1,769	4.0	739	3.6	1,030	4.4
Did voluntary work without pay	82	0.2	44	0.2	38	0.2
<i>Unemployed</i>	2,786	6.0	1,313	6.0	1,473	5.9
Worked before, seeking work and available	1,069	38.4	500	38.1	569	38.6
Seeking work for the first time and available	1,717	61.6	813	61.9	904	61.4
Economically not active	15,386	24.7	7,135	24.7	8,251	24.7
Did home duties (household chore)	2,862	18.6	894	12.5	1,968	23.9
Full time education	7,389	48.0	4,149	58.1	3,240	39.3
Pensioner/Retired	458	3.0	348	4.9	110	1.3
Disabled/Sick	893	5.8	355	5.0	538	6.5
Too old/young	2,628	17.1	842	11.8	1,786	21.6
Other	1,156	7.5	547	7.7	609	7.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.2.2 Economic Activity Status by Age

The economic activity status of the population 15 years and older by age and sex is presented in Table 4.2. Of the age groups 15-19 years, the employed constitute 27.1 percent, the unemployed, 4.4 percent with the economically not active forming 68.5 percent. Of the age groups 25-59 years, more than eighty percent are employed. For the same age group under discussion, less than 10.0 percent are unemployed and the economically not active except for the age group 55-59 years who have 12.5 percent as economically not active. As expected persons in younger age groups are expected to have a larger proportion of the population in the economically not active group as most of them are normally in school. It is normally expected that as age increases, the proportion of the population who are economically not active decreases whereas those in the employed category increases.

Not much difference exists between the sexes with respect to their economic activity status in the district. For almost all the age groups, the proportion of total employed males is higher than that of the females and hence for the economically not active group females exceeds their male proportions.

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

Age group	All Status		Employed		Unemployed		Economically not active	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both sexes								
Total	62,201	100.0	44,029	70.8	2,786	4.5	15,386	24.7
15 - 19	11,086	100.0	3,009	27.1	486	4.4	7,591	68.5
20 - 24	9,173	100.0	5,925	64.6	922	10.1	2,326	25.4
25 - 29	8,233	100.0	6,910	83.9	534	6.5	789	9.6
30 - 34	6,494	100.0	5,777	89.0	296	4.6	421	6.5
35 - 39	6,003	100.0	5,504	91.7	170	2.8	329	5.5
40 - 44	4,876	100.0	4,497	92.2	99	2.0	280	5.7
45 - 49	3,980	100.0	3,662	92.0	66	1.7	252	6.3
50 - 54	3,464	100.0	3,074	88.7	78	2.3	312	9.0
55 - 59	2,160	100.0	1,852	85.7	38	1.8	270	12.5
60 - 64	2,051	100.0	1,519	74.1	57	2.8	475	23.2
65+	4,681	100.0	2,300	49.1	40	0.9	2,341	50.0
Male								
Total	28,842	100.0	20,394	70.7	1,313	4.6	7,135	24.7
15 - 19	5,692	100.0	1,469	25.8	201	3.5	4,022	70.7
20 - 24	4,136	100.0	2,576	62.3	417	10.1	1,143	27.6
25 - 29	3,580	100.0	3,039	84.9	247	6.9	294	8.2
30 - 34	3,070	100.0	2,761	89.9	156	5.1	153	5.0
35 - 39	2,829	100.0	2,642	93.4	87	3.1	100	3.5
40 - 44	2,256	100.0	2,109	93.5	53	2.3	94	4.2
45 - 49	1,926	100.0	1,787	92.8	39	2.0	100	5.2
50 - 54	1,568	100.0	1,416	90.3	38	2.4	114	7.3
55 - 59	1,083	100.0	944	87.2	24	2.2	115	10.6
60 - 64	940	100.0	687	73.1	33	3.5	220	23.4
65+	1,762	100.0	964	54.7	18	1.0	780	44.3
Female								
Total	33,359	100.0	23,635	70.9	1,473	4.4	8,251	24.7
15 - 19	5,394	100.0	1,540	28.6	285	5.3	3,569	66.2
20 - 24	5,037	100.0	3,349	66.5	505	10.0	1,183	23.5
25 - 29	4,653	100.0	3,871	83.2	287	6.2	495	10.6
30 - 34	3,424	100.0	3,016	88.1	140	4.1	268	7.8
35 - 39	3,174	100.0	2,862	90.2	83	2.6	229	7.2
40 - 44	2,620	100.0	2,388	91.1	46	1.8	186	7.1
45 - 49	2,054	100.0	1,875	91.3	27	1.3	152	7.4
50 - 54	1,896	100.0	1,658	87.4	40	2.1	198	10.4
55 - 59	1,077	100.0	908	84.3	14	1.3	155	14.4
60 - 64	1,111	100.0	832	74.9	24	2.2	255	23.0
65+	2,919	100.0	1,336	45.8	22	0.8	1,561	53.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.3 Occupation

Table 4.3 shows the various occupations of the employed population. The main occupation of the people in the district is skilled agricultural, forestry and fisheries which constitute 36.4 percent and is the dominant occupation for males (40.2%) while for females the dominant occupation is service and sales workers with 33.2 percent of the female workforce. The next major occupation is service and sales workers constituting 22.1percent. Only 3.8 percent are professional/ technicians with managers being 2.0 percent.

Table 4.3: Employed population 15 years and older by occupation and sex

Occupation	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	44,029	100.0	20,394	100.0	23,635	100.0
Managers	893	2.0	404	2.0	489	2.1
Professionals	1,675	3.8	1,028	5.0	647	2.7
Technicians and associate professionals	498	1.1	388	1.9	110	0.5
Clerical support workers	436	1.0	264	1.3	172	0.7
Service and sales workers	9,729	22.1	1,882	9.2	7,847	33.2
Skilled agricultural forestry and fishery workers	16,028	36.4	8,197	40.2	7,831	33.1
Craft and related trades workers	8,585	19.5	4,390	21.5	4,195	17.7
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	2,858	6.5	2,718	13.3	140	0.6
Elementary occupations	3,315	7.5	1,111	5.4	2,204	9.3
Other occupations	12	0.0	12	0.1	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.4 Industry

Table 4.4 shows that agriculture, forestry and fishing is the main industry in the district which employs 38.1percent of the workforce. This is followed by wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicle and motor cycle with 17.9 percent; the manufacturing industry (15.6%) and accommodation and food service activities constitute 7.5 percent. The distribution by sex shows that more males (42.5%) than females (34.3%) are employed in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry while there are more females (25.8%) than males (8.8%) in wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicle and motor cycle.

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	44,029	100.0	20,394	100.0	23,635	100.0
Agriculture forestry and fishing	16,762	38.1	8,666	42.5	8,096	34.3
Mining and quarrying	655	1.5	560	2.7	95	0.4
Manufacturing	6,886	15.6	2,742	13.4	4,144	17.5
Electricity gas steam and air conditioning supply	56	0.1	48	0.2	8	0.0
Water supply; sewerage waste management and remediation activities	152	0.3	90	0.4	62	0.3
Construction	1,692	3.8	1,654	8.1	38	0.2
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	7,890	17.9	1,791	8.8	6,099	25.8
Transportation and storage	1,985	4.5	1,934	9.5	51	0.2
Accommodation and food service activities	3,282	7.5	418	2.0	2,864	12.1
Information and communication	64	0.1	53	0.3	11	0.0
Financial and insurance activities	212	0.5	130	0.6	82	0.3
Real estate activities	2	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0
Professional scientific and technical activities	192	0.4	131	0.6	61	0.3
Administrative and support service activities	314	0.7	261	1.3	53	0.2
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	329	0.7	262	1.3	67	0.3
Education	1,225	2.8	714	3.5	511	2.2
Human health and social work activities	333	0.8	161	0.8	172	0.7
Arts entertainment and recreation	175	0.4	159	0.8	16	0.1
Other service activities	1,661	3.8	545	2.7	1,116	4.7
Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods - and services-producing activities of households for own use	159	0.4	70	0.3	89	0.4
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	3	0.0	3	0.0	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.5 Employment Status

Table 4.5 show that majority of the population 15 years and older are self-employed without employees (63.5%) followed by those who are employees with 19.9 percent while the contributing family worker and the self-employed with employee(s) account for 5.8percent and 4.2 percent respectively. A high proportion of females (75.7%) are self-employed without employees while for the same category it is 49.3 percent for males. For those who are employees, 32.0 percent are males and 9.5percent are females.

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

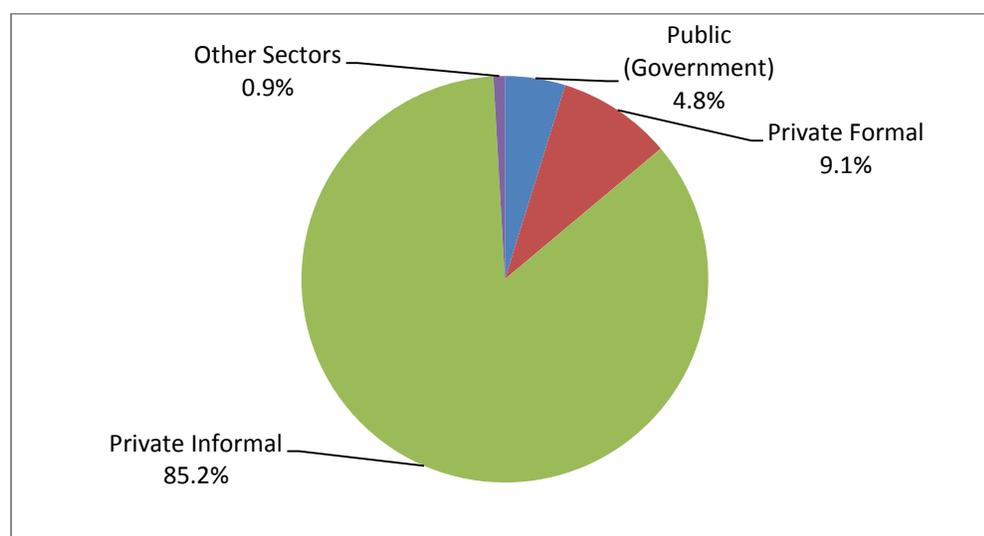
Employment Status	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	44,029	100.0	20,394	100.0	23,635	100.0
Employee	8,760	19.9	6,525	32.0	2,235	9.5
Self-employed without employee(s)	27,944	63.5	10,058	49.3	17,886	75.7
Self-employed with employee(s)	1,864	4.2	1,113	5.5	751	3.2
Casual worker	1,254	2.8	919	4.5	335	1.4
Contributing family worker	2,561	5.8	962	4.7	1,599	6.8
Apprentice	1,349	3.1	676	3.3	673	2.8
Domestic employee (House help)	249	0.6	121	0.6	128	0.5
Other	48	0.1	20	0.1	28	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

4.6 Employment Sector

Table 4.6 shows the employed population 15 years and older by employment sector and sex. The data show that the private informal sector has the highest proportion of 85.2 percent of the employed population in the district. The public or government sector employs 4.8 percent of the labour force with the private formal employing 9.1 percent. This is presented in Figure 4.4.

Figure 4.1: Pie chart showing employment sector of population 15 years and older



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Again, differences between males and females by sector of employment show that more females (91.7%) than males (77.8%) are employed in the private informal sector, whereas in the private formal and public or government sectors, more males than their female counterparts are employed.

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	44,029	100.0	20,394	100.0	23,635	100.0	
Public (Government)	2,105	4.8	1,391	6.8	714	3.0	
Private Formal	4,023	9.1	2,915	14.3	1,108	4.7	
Private Informal	37,527	85.2	15,858	77.8	21,669	91.7	
Semi-Public/Parastatal	145	0.3	91	0.4	54	0.2	
NGOs (Local and International)	224	0.5	134	0.7	90	0.4	
Other Organizations	International	5	0.0	5	0.0	0	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER FIVE

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

5.1 Introduction

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) have become important tools in today's knowledge-based information society and economy. This role of ICT in an emerging economy such as Ghana's, has been widely recognized at various levels. The recognition is reflected in actions such as the development and deployment of a national ICT infrastructure, institutional and regulatory framework for managing the sector, promoting the use of ICT in all sectors of the economy, implementing e-governance in all government institutions and the construction of a National Data Centre as well as Regional Innovation Centres. For the first time in the history of censuses, Information Communication Technology (ICT) data was collected in the 2010 PHC. This chapter discusses ownership of mobile phones, the use of internet facilities and households that own desktop/laptop computers of persons 12 years and older.

5.2 Ownership of Mobile Phones

Table 5.1 shows the proportions of the district population that own mobile phones and those who use internet. The table shows that 40.0 percent of persons aged 12 years and older in the district, own mobile phones. The distribution by sex shows that of the male population 12 years and older 47.9 percent own the device while 33.1 percent of the females own mobile phones

5.3 Use of Internet Facility

Table 5.1 further shows that the proportion that use internet in the district is very low with only 3.0 percent of persons aged 12 years and older using the facility. As presented in the case of mobile phone ownership, 4.9 percent of the male population uses the internet compared to only 2.0 percent of their female counterpart.

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 phones		Population using internet facility	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	69,784	100.0	27,935	40.0	2,342	3.4
Male	32,688	100.0	15,673	47.9	1,596	4.9
Female	37,096	100.0	12,262	33.1	746	2.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

5.4 Household Ownership of Desktop or Laptop Computer

Table 5.2 shows that only 3.8 percent of households in the district have desktop or laptop computers. The variations by sex show that whereas 2.4 percent of all the households in the district who own laptop computers are headed by females 4.6 percent are headed by males.

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

Sex	Number of households		Households having desktop/ laptop computers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	26,095	100.0	983	3.8
Male	16,196	100.0	746	4.6
Female	9,899	100.0	237	2.4

CHAPTER SIX

DISABILITY

6.1 Introduction

Persons with disabilities (PWD) have been 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 (Ghana Statistical Service, 2012).

In an attempt to understand the situation of PWDs as a guide for policy formulation, the Ghana Statistical Service, for the first time, collected information on PWDs in the 2010 Population and Housing Census. This chapter discusses the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of PWDs in the Ahanta West District.

6.2 Population with Disability

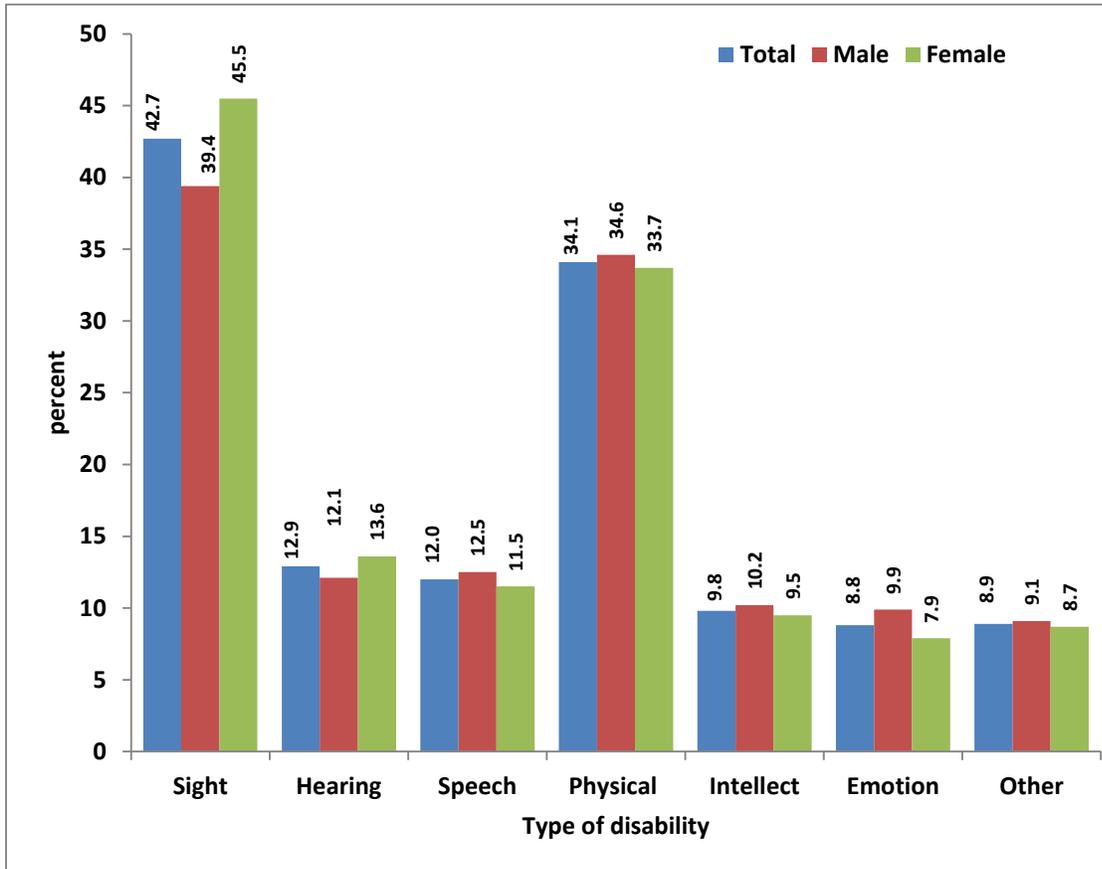
The proportion of the population with disability in the district is 2.9 percent as shown in Table 6.1. Of the male population, the proportion disabled in the district is 2.7 and of the female population, 3.0 percent are disabled.

6.3 Type of Disability and Sex

Figure 6.1 show the population by type of disability and sex in the district. From the graph, those with sight disability constitute the highest proportion of disabled persons with 42.7 percent. This is followed by those with physical disability (34.1%), hearing (12.9%) and speech 12.0 percent with persons with emotional disability having the lowest proportion of 8.8 percent.

Slight differences between males and females with disability are shown in the graph. There are more females (45.5%) with visual or sight impairment than males (39.4%). Again, 13.6 percent of females have disability with hearing while it is 12.1 percent for their male counterparts.

Figure 6.1: Types of disability by sex



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.4 Distribution of PWD by Type of Locality

Table 6.1 shows that there are more persons with disability in the rural communities (3.3%) compared to the urban areas (1.9%). The table also shows that visual or sight impairment is the most common type of disability in both urban (45.1%) and rural areas (42.1%). This is followed by people with physical disability with urban areas recording 31.9 percent and the rural areas with 34.7 percent. There are more physical (34.7%) and emotional (9.0%) persons with disability in the rural areas compared to (31.9%) and (7.9%) in the urban areas.

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

Disability Type	Both sexes		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes						
Total	106,215	100.0	50,999	100.0	55,216	100.0
Without disability	103,176	97.1	49,600	97.3	53,576	97.0
With disability	3,039	2.9	1,399	2.7	1,640	3.0
Sight	1,298	42.7	551	39.4	747	45.5
Hearing	392	12.9	169	12.1	223	13.6
Speech	364	12.0	175	12.5	189	11.5
Physical	1,037	34.1	484	34.6	553	33.7
Intellect	298	9.8	143	10.2	155	9.5
Emotion	268	8.8	138	9.9	130	7.9
Other	271	8.9	128	9.1	143	8.7
Urban						
Total	31,286	100.0	14,740	100.0	16,546	100.0
Without disability	30,694	98.1	14,471	98.2	16,223	98.0
With disability	592	1.9	269	1.8	323	2.0
Sight	267	45.1	117	43.5	150	46.4
Hearing	85	14.4	41	15.2	44	13.6
Speech	87	14.7	41	15.2	46	14.2
Physical	189	31.9	79	29.4	110	34.1
Intellect	61	10.3	28	10.4	33	10.2
Emotion	47	7.9	18	6.7	29	9.0
Other	38	6.4	14	5.2	24	7.4
Rural						
Total	74,929	100.0	36,259	100.0	38,670	100.0
Without disability	72,482	96.7	35,129	96.9	37,353	96.6
With disability	2,447	3.3	1,130	3.1	1,317	3.4
Sight	1,031	42.1	434	38.4	597	45.3
Hearing	307	12.5	128	11.3	179	13.6
Speech	277	11.3	134	11.9	143	10.9
Physical	848	34.7	405	35.8	443	33.6
Intellect	237	9.7	115	10.2	122	9.3
Emotion	221	9.0	120	10.6	101	7.7
Other	233	9.5	114	10.1	119	9.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.5 Economic Activity Status of PWDs 15 Years and Older

Table 6.2 shows that of persons with disability in the district, 49.3 percent are employed, 3.9 percent unemployed and 46.8 percent are economically not active. The data shows that for sight (52.2%) and other forms of disability not specified (57.3%), the percentage employed is higher compared to the other forms of disability specified in Table 6.2. For all the disability types reported in the table, those unemployed constitute less than 10.0 percent. Table 6.2 further illustrate that there is varying differences in the data relating to males and females. For the male population disabled, 53.8 percent are employed, 3.8 percent unemployed and 42.4 percent economically not active. Of the various categories of disability, sight, hearing, speech and other forms of disability not elsewhere classified has more than fifty percent of their population

employed, while physical, intellect and emotional has more than fifty percent of their population in the economically not active group. For the female population disabled, 45.7 percent are employed, 4.0 unemployed and 50.3 percent economically not active. Of the various disability categories, apart from other forms of disability not classified which has 53.1 percent and sight (49.3%) of its population employed, all other categories has higher percentages in the economically not active group.

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	62,201	100.0	44,029	70.8	2,786	4.5	15,386	24.7
No disability	59,593	100.0	42,742	71.7	2,685	4.5	14,166	23.8
With a disability	2,608	100.0	1,287	49.3	101	3.9	1,220	46.8
Sight	1,168	100.0	610	52.2	31	2.7	527	45.1
Hearing	289	100.0	137	47.4	13	4.5	139	48.1
Speech	281	100.0	131	46.6	11	3.9	139	49.5
Physical	938	100.0	355	37.8	22	2.3	561	59.8
Intellectual	243	100.0	63	25.9	15	6.2	165	67.9
Emotional	227	100.0	103	45.4	20	8.8	104	45.8
Other	239	100.0	137	57.3	14	5.9	88	36.8
Male								
Total	28,842	100.0	20,394	70.7	1,313	4.6	7,135	24.7
No disability	27,673	100.0	19,765	71.4	1,269	4.6	6,639	24.0
With a disability	1,169	100.0	629	53.8	44	3.8	496	42.4
Sight	487	100.0	274	56.3	9	1.8	204	41.9
Hearing	114	100.0	64	56.1	5	4.4	45	39.5
Speech	134	100.0	74	55.2	6	4.5	54	40.3
Physical	427	100.0	185	43.3	12	2.8	230	53.9
Intellectual	122	100.0	38	31.1	12	9.8	72	59.0
Emotional	121	100.0	57	47.1	11	9.1	53	43.8
Other	111	100.0	69	62.2	5	4.5	37	33.3
Female								
Total	33,359	100.0	23,635	70.9	1,473	4.4	8,251	24.7
No disability	31,920	100.0	22,977	72	1,416	4.4	7,527	23.6
With a disability	1,439	100.0	658	45.7	57	4.0	724	50.3
Sight	681	100.0	336	49.3	22	3.2	323	47.4
Hearing	175	100.0	73	41.7	8	4.6	94	53.7
Speech	147	100.0	57	38.8	5	3.4	85	57.8
Physical	511	100.0	170	33.3	10	2.0	331	64.8
Intellectual	121	100.0	25	20.7	3	2.5	93	76.9
Emotional	106	100.0	46	43.4	9	8.5	51	48.1
Other	128	100.0	68	53.1	9	7.0	51	39.8

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

6.6 Disability and Education

Table 6.3 presents data on population 3 years and older by sex, disability type and level of education in the district. Of the population disabled, 47.8 percent have never been to school. Those in pre-primary constitute only 3.2 percent with 42.3 percent in basic school. From the table people with disability who have attended secondary or higher levels of education constitute 6.6 percent. From the table, over forty percent of disabled persons have either never attended school or are in basic school. For the male and female distribution, more females (63.0%) have never attended school compared to their male counterpart where only 30.0 percent have never attended school. On the other hand, there are more males (56.5%) in basic school compared to females (30.3%) who have basic education. From the table, it could be said that more disabled males are in school compared to their female counterparts.

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

Sex/Disability type	Total		Never		Pre-Primary		Basic		Sec/SHS and higher	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Both Sexes										
Total	96,580	100.0	22,019	22.8	10,769	11.2	53,924	55.8	9,868	10.2
No disability	93,610	100.0	20,598	22.0	10,673	11.4	52,667	56.3	9,672	10.3
With a disability	2,970	100.0	1,421	47.8	96	3.2	1,257	42.3	196	6.6
Sight	1,280	100.0	601	47.0	32	2.5	542	42.3	105	8.2
Hearing	386	100.0	192	49.7	20	5.2	162	42.0	12	3.1
Speech	349	100.0	209	59.9	16	4.6	112	32.1	12	3.4
Physical	1,013	100.0	580	57.3	18	1.8	368	36.3	47	4.6
Intellectual	291	100.0	172	59.1	13	4.5	94	32.3	12	4.1
Emotional	258	100.0	119	46.1	11	4.3	109	42.2	19	7.4
Other	266	100.0	117	44.0	11	4.1	124	46.6	14	5.3
Male										
Total	46,156	100.0	7,157	15.5	5,458	11.8	27,527	59.6	6,014	13.0
No disability	44,794	100.0	6,749	15.1	5,414	12.1	26,758	59.7	5,873	13.1
With a disability	1,362	100.0	408	30.0	44	3.2	769	56.5	141	10.4
Sight	543	100.0	141	26.0	15	2.8	318	58.6	69	12.7
Hearing	167	100.0	62	37.1	6	3.6	90	53.9	9	5.4
Speech	168	100.0	81	48.2	6	3.6	71	42.3	10	6.0
Physical	468	100.0	172	36.8	9	1.9	251	53.6	36	7.7
Intellectual	141	100.0	71	50.4	4	2.8	55	39.0	11	7.8
Emotional	134	100.0	55	41.0	4	3.0	63	47.0	12	9.0
Other	126	100.0	39	31.0	3	2.4	72	57.1	12	9.5
Female										
Total	50,424	100.0	14,862	29.5	5,311	10.5	26,397	52.4	3,854	7.6
No disability	48,816	100.0	13,849	28.4	5,259	10.8	25,909	53.1	3,799	7.8
With a disability	1,608	100.0	1,013	63.0	52	3.2	488	30.3	55	3.4
Sight	737	100.0	460	62.4	17	2.3	224	30.4	36	4.9
Hearing	219	100.0	130	59.4	14	6.4	72	32.9	3	1.4
Speech	181	100.0	128	70.7	10	5.5	41	22.7	2	1.1
Physical	545	100.0	408	74.9	9	1.7	117	21.5	11	2.0
Intellectual	150	100.0	101	67.3	9	6.0	39	26.0	1	0.7
Emotional	124	100.0	64	51.6	7	5.6	46	37.1	7	5.6
Other	140	100.0	78	55.7	8	5.7	52	37.1	2	1.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER SEVEN

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

7.1 Introduction

Agriculture serves as the backbone to the development of the economy of the country and represents the major economic activity in Ahanta West District. This chapter analyses the characteristics of agricultural households in the district. An agricultural household was defined as where, at least, one person in the household was engaged in any type of farming activity, namely crop farming, tree growing, livestock rearing and fish farming (GSS, 2012).

7.2 Households in Agriculture

Table 7.1 present households that are engaged in agricultural activities in the district. Out of the total households of 26,095, 47.2 percent are engaged in agriculture. Of the agricultural households, majority (94.45%) are into crop farming while 26.2 percent are into rearing of livestock. Only a few (0.2%) of the households are engage in tree planting. For the urban-rural distribution, the table depicts that 24.1 percent of urban households are into agriculture whereas 56.8 percent of rural households engages in agricultural activities. Crop farming again, is the main type of agricultural activity engaged in by households in both urban (87.2%) and rural areas (95.6%). This is followed by livestock rearing where 25.0 percent of urban households and 26.4 percent of rural households are into. Tree planting is also not common in both urban and rural areas where only (0.2%) of the households are engaged in this activity. Fish farming is an activity which is almost nonexistence in the district.

Table 7.1: Size of households by agricultural activities

Agricultural activity	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Households	26,095	100.0	7,646	100.0	18,449	100.0
Households engages in Agriculture	12,325	47.2	1,846	24.1	10,479	56.8
Crop Farming	11,631	94.4	1,609	87.2	10,022	95.6
Tree Planting	20	0.2	4	0.2	16	0.2
Livestock Rearing	3,225	26.2	462	25.0	2,763	26.4
Fish Farming	4	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

7.3 Distribution of Livestock and Other Animals Reared

In Table 7.2, the major livestock reared by majority of households are birds with chicken, being the highest, constituting 63.1 percent. Among the ruminants, goat rearing is the highest livestock (20.8%) followed by sheep (5.9%). About 1.67 percent of the households are into guinea fowl rearing.

With regards to livestock keepers, majority of the keepers are into chicken rearing with 41.4 percent followed by goat keepers (38.6%) and the livestock with the least keeper is beehives (0.02%). Eleven percent of keepers' rear sheep with only 0.4 percent as cattle rearers.

Table 7.2: Distribution of livestock, other animals and keepers

Type of livestock/other animals/keepers	Number of Animals		Number of keepers		Average Animal per Keeper
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
All livestock	69,852	100.0	4,470	100.0	16
Beehives	2	0.0	1	0.2	2
Cattle	335	0.5	19	0.4	18
Chicken	44,049	63.1	1,853	41.5	24
Dove	56	0.1	6	0.1	9
Duck	2,018	2.9	96	2.2	21
Goat	14,514	20.8	1,725	38.6	8
Grass-cutter	46	0.1	5	0.1	9
Guinea fowl	1,167	1.7	17	0.4	69
Ostrich	111	0.2	5	0.1	22
Pig	956	1.4	74	1.7	13
Rabbit	55	0.1	7	0.2	8
Sheep	4,114	5.9	500	11.2	8
Silk worm	93	0.1	7	0.2	13
Snail	14	0.0	3	0.1	5
Turkey	1,110	1.6	6	0.1	185
Other	927	1.3	144	3.2	6
Fish farming	285	0.4	2	0.0	143
Inland fishing	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Marine fishing	0	0.0	0	0.0	0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER EIGHT

HOUSING CONDITIONS

8.1 Introduction

The type of housing is critical in determining the quality of life of a household. In 2010, the policy framework of the Government of Ghana, the *Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA)*, emphasized the need for increased access of the population to safe, adequate and affordable housing and shelter (National Development Planning Commission, 2010).

This chapter provides information on the type of dwelling units, occupancy status and main materials used in the construction of houses. Again, access to basic utilities in the household such as potable water, electricity, toilet and bathing facilities, and forms of waste disposal among others would be discussed. This information would enable policy making on housing needs and assessment of the district.

8.2 Housing Stock

Table 8.1 gives the stock of houses and households in the district. The data shows that there are 26,095 households in 19,946 houses which give an average household per house of 1.3 with urban and rural areas constituting 1.8 and 1.2 respectively. The population per house in the district is 5.2 persons while it is 7.1 and 4.7 in urban and rural areas. The average household size of 4.0 has the same values as reported in urban and rural areas.

The table further shows that majority (70.9%) of the population in households live in rural areas with the urban accounting for 29.1 percent. Again, 78.8 percent of the houses in the district are in the rural areas and 21.2 percent in urban areas.

Table 8.1: Stock of houses and households

Categories	Total				
	Country	Region	District	Urban	Rural
Total population	24,658,823	2,376,021	106,215	31,286	74,929
Total household population	24,076,327	2,307,395	103,710	30,229	73,481
Number of houses	3,392,745	380,104	19,946	4,238	15,708
Number of households	5,467,054	553,634	26,095	7,646	18,449
Average households per house	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.2
Population per house*	7.1	6.1	5.2	7.1	4.7
Average household size	4.4	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.0

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.3 Type of Dwelling, Holding and Tenancy Arrangements

8.3.1 Ownership status of dwelling, sex of household head and type of locality

Table 8.2 shows that, majority of the dwelling units (62.8%) in the district are owned by a household member. This is followed by other private individuals with 18.1percent and 16.0 percent is owned by a relative who is not a household member. Ownership of dwelling units by public/government and other private agency constitute only 1.2 percent and 0.2 percent of holding and tenancy arrangements in the district. The sex distribution shows that a slightly higher proportion of male headed households (64.0%) live in dwelling units owned by household member compared to 60.7 percent of their female counterparts. In addition, more male heads of household (1.6%) live in public/government buildings compared to the female heads (0.8%). On the other hand, there are more female household heads (20.0%) in dwellings owned by a relative not a household member than male heads (13.5%). By urban-rural distribution, 66.2 percent of rural dwellers live in dwelling units owned by a household member while the proportion is 54.6 percent in urban areas. For those who live in dwellings units owned by other private individuals, a higher proportion are urban households (28.3%) than 13.8 percent of rural households.

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

Ownership Status	Total		Male		Female		Urban		Rural	
	Number	Percent								
Total	26,095	100.0	16,196	100.0	9,899	100.0	7,646	100.0	18,449	100.0
Owned by household member	16,380	62.8	10,369	64.0	6,011	60.7	4,175	54.6	12,205	66.2
Being purchased (e.g. Mortgage)	124	0.5	84	0.5	40	0.4	79	1.0	45	0.2
Relative not a household member	4,170	16.0	2,188	13.5	1,982	20.0	1,039	13.6	3,131	17.0
Other private individual	4,717	18.1	3,032	18.7	1,685	17.0	2,162	28.3	2,555	13.8
Private employer	243	0.9	178	1.1	65	0.7	41	0.5	202	1.1
Other private agency	45	0.2	35	0.2	10	0.1	16	0.2	29	0.2
Public/Government ownership	320	1.2	239	1.6	81	0.8	112	1.5	208	1.1
Other	96	0.3	71	0.4	25	0.3	22	0.3	74	0.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

The type of occupied dwelling units by sex of household head and type of locality is shown in Table 8.3. Overall, the main type of dwelling unit in the district is compound house which constitute 45.8 percent. This is followed by those who live in separate houses (37.1%) while the lowest type of dwelling unit in the district are those in living quarters attached to office/shop and those in the other types of dwellings not specified with 0.1percent each. More than half (59.5%) and 21.7 percent of households live in compound houses and separate houses in the urban areas. In the rural areas, almost equal proportions (43.4%) and (42.1%) of the households live in separate and compound houses. Slightly a higher proportion of male headed households 38.1 percent than female heads (35.5%) live in separate houses. In compound houses, there are more female headed households (48.5%) than the male heads (44.2%) who live in compound houses.

Apart from compound houses and huts/buildings where there are more female household heads, the other type of dwellings such as separate houses, semi-detached houses, flat/apartment and improvised homes have a higher proportion of male household heads.

Table 8.3: Type of occupied dwelling unit by sex of household head and type of locality

Type of dwelling	Total country	Region	District					
			Total		Male Headed	Female Headed	Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent				
Total	5,467,054	553,634	26,095	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Separate house	1,471,391	185,809	9,675	37.1	38.1	35.5	21.7	43.4
Semi-detached house	391,548	48,683	2,379	9.1	9.4	8.7	8.4	9.4
Flat/apartment	256,355	33,980	1,506	5.8	6.3	4.9	7.1	5.2
Compound house (rooms)	2,942,147	259,471	11,951	45.8	44.2	48.5	59.5	40.1
Huts/Buildings (same compound)	170,957	13,962	275	1.1	0.9	1.3	1.6	0.8
Huts/buildings (different compound)	36,410	2,158	49	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.1
Tent	10,343	1,120	46	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Improvised home (kiosk/container etc.)	90,934	3,707	109	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4
Living quarters attached to office/shop	20,499	1,743	28	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0
Uncompleted building	66,624	2,049	52	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other	9,846	952	25	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4 Construction Materials

This section discusses the main material for the construction of outer walls, floor and the roofing of dwelling units in the district.

8.4.1 Construction Materials for Outer Walls

In Table 8.4, the main construction materials used by the households for outer walls is cement blocks/concrete (55.9%), and mud brick/earth (38.8%), while only 2.4 percent use wood. The least types of construction materials used by the households are stone, burnt bricks, bamboo and palm leaf/thatch (grass)/raffia contributing 0.2 percent each to the proportion of the materials used for the outer walls of dwelling units.

As expected, the proportion of households using mud brick/earth is higher in the rural area (43.5%) than the urban area (26.4%) and the proportion of households using cement blocks/concrete is higher in the urban area (70.0%) as compared to the rural area (50.6%).

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

	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	594,292	29,278	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud brick/earth	1,991,540	241,414	11,363	38.8	26.4	43.5
Wood	200,594	19,221	694	2.4	1.4	2.7
Metal sheet/slate/asbestos	43,708	3,170	106	0.4	0.7	0.2
Stone	11,330	835	45	0.2	0.1	0.2
Burnt bricks	38,237	5,273	63	0.2	0.4	0.2
Cement blocks/concrete	3,342,462	297,909	16,376	55.9	70	50.6
Landcrete	104,270	9,463	362	1.2	0.4	1.5
Bamboo	8,206	1,957	58	0.2	0.2	0.2
Palm leaf/thatch (grass)/raffia	38,054	11,618	68	0.2	0	0.3
Other	39,206	3,432	143	0.5	0.3	0.6

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.2 Construction materials for the floor of dwelling units

Table 8.5 shows the main construction materials for the floor of dwelling units by type of locality. Majority of households (93.1%) use cement/concrete as the main material for the construction of the floor while 4.2 percent of households use earth/mud. The use of cement/concrete for floors dominates in both urban and rural areas with less than five percent of both rural and urban households using earth/mud.

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

Materials for the floor	Total country Region		District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	553,634	26,095	100.0	100.0	100.0
Earth/mud	872,161	77,859	1,106	4.2	3	4.8
Cement/concrete	4,255,611	450,286	24,293	93.1	92.6	93.3
Stone	32,817	2,432	76	0.3	0.5	0.2
Burnt brick	6,537	569	10	0	0.1	0
Wood	52,856	2,848	40	0.2	0.1	0.2
Vinyl tiles	57,032	4,158	131	0.5	0.8	0.4
Ceramic/porcelain/granite/marble tiles	88,500	6,608	258	1	1.7	0.7
Terrazzo/terrazzo tiles	85,973	7,055	122	0.5	1	0.3
Other	15,567	1,819	59	0.2	0.2	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.4.3 Construction materials for roofing of dwelling units

Table 8.6 shows that majority of the households (50.5%) use metal sheet for roofing. The second most common construction material for roofing of dwelling units is slate/asbestos (24.3%) followed by bamboo (15.1%) and thatch/palm leaf/raffia (3.9%) with the least roofing material being the use of roofing tiles (0.3%).

The use of metal sheet again, is the dominant material used for roofing in both urban (65.3%) and rural areas (44.9%). The use of bamboo (18.1%) and thatch/palm leaf/raffia (5.3%) are used more in rural areas than urban areas where the use of bamboo is (15.1%) and thatch/Palm leaf (3.9%). A higher proportion of households in urban areas (4.6%) use cement/concrete as roofing materials than those in rural areas (1.7%).

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

Main Roofing material	Total country Region		District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,817,607	594,292	29,278	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mud/Mud bricks/earth	80,644	4,795	115	0.4	0.4	0.4
Wood	45,547	4,333	303	1	0.4	1.3
Metal sheet	4,152,259	375,579	14,785	50.5	65.3	44.9
Slate/asbestos	759,039	90,669	7,104	24.3	18.9	26.3
Cement/concrete	141,072	35,736	739	2.5	4.6	1.7
Roofing tile	31,456	2,538	98	0.3	0.3	0.4
Bamboo	71,049	32,363	4,424	15.1	7.3	18.1
Thatch/Palm leaf or raffia	500,606	43,836	1,136	3.9	0.2	5.3
Other	35,935	4,443	574	2	2.6	1.7

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.5 Room Occupancy

Information on number of sleeping rooms available to a household is useful in determining whether or not the space available to households is considered to be overcrowded or not. The more the number of people in a room, the higher the risk for health implications especially in relation to contagious diseases.

Table 8.7 shows that 59.3 percent of households have one room, with those having two rooms constituting 23.1 percent. The proportion of households that have six or more rooms for sleeping is less than 3.0 percent. The general picture depicted in the table show that majority of households in the district have at most two rooms as sleeping rooms.

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

House- hold size	Number of sleeping rooms										
	Total		One room	Two rooms	Three rooms	Four rooms	Five rooms	Six rooms	Seven rooms	Eight rooms	Nine rooms or more
	Number	Percent									
Total	26,095	100.0	59.3	23.1	8.9	4.3	2.0	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.4
1	5,074	100.0	80.6	13.4	3.2	1.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1
2	3,598	100.0	71.2	19.4	4.6	2.5	1.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2
3	3,758	100.0	66.3	21.9	7.1	2.4	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.2
4	3,797	100.0	60.1	24.7	8.6	3.1	1.8	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.3
5	3,379	100.0	52.1	27.9	11.2	4.3	2.1	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.4
6	2,508	100.0	45.4	29.6	12.7	6.8	2.3	1.6	0.9	0.3	0.4
7	1,624	100.0	37.4	32.1	14.0	7.6	4.2	2.5	0.9	0.4	0.8
8	1,029	100.0	28.0	34.1	17.6	10.8	4.3	2.3	1.4	0.4	1.2
9	574	100.0	24.9	27.5	22.6	11.5	5.2	2.6	3.0	1.0	1.6
10+	754	100.0	15.6	24.1	22.0	16.7	8.8	6.5	1.7	1.1	3.4

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6 Access to Utilities and Household facilities

This section analyses household amenities such as cooking space, sanitation issues and source of lighting in dwelling units.

8.6.1 Source of Lighting

Table 8.8 shows that, the use of electricity (mains) which constitute 70.2 percent of source of lighting in household is the major source of energy for households in the district. The second most common source of energy is the use of kerosene lamp by 20.6 percent of households followed by the use of flashlight/torch (7.4%). The least source of energy used in dwelling units are gas lamps, solar energy and crop residue each contributing 0.1 percent each as source of lighting of households.

The table further shows that a higher proportion of households (81.2%) in the urban areas use electricity (main) compared to the rural areas where 65.6 percent of dwelling units use electricity

from the main lines. However, more rural households use kerosene lamp (23.2%) compared to their urban counterparts where 14.3 percent use kerosene as source of lighting. The use of solar energy, gas lamp and crop residue as source of lighting is not common in the District.

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

Main source of light	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Total	5,467,054	553,634	26,095	100.0	100.0	100.0
Electricity (mains)	3,511,065	360,079	18,310	70.2	81.2	65.6
Electricity (private generator)	36,142	4,931	187	0.7	0.8	0.7
Kerosene lamp	971,807	67,662	5,370	20.6	14.3	23.2
Gas lamp	9,378	915	36	0.1	0.1	0.2
Solar energy	9,194	928	19	0.1	0.1	0.1
Candle	41,214	2,085	92	0.4	0.5	0.3
Flashlight/torch	858,651	114,514	1,921	7.4	2.6	9.3
Firewood	13,241	1,055	45	0.2	0.2	0.2
Crop residue	4,623	315	17	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other	11,739	1,150	98	0.4	0.2	0.5

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.6.2 Main source of cooking fuel and cooking space used by Households

Table 8.9 presents data on the main source of cooking fuel and cooking space used by households in the district. In table 8.9, the main source of fuel for cooking is wood (49.5%) and charcoal (34.6%) with gas representing 8.8 percent. The use of kerosene and electricity as cooking fuel is very low in the district. Furthermore, a higher proportion of rural households (61.6%) use wood compared to 20.2 percent of urban households as cooking fuel. More urban households however, use gas (17.9%) and charcoal (55.3%) than their rural counterparts with proportions of (5.1%) and (26.1%) respectively.

Table 8.9 again, shows that 48.1 percent of households in the district use separate room exclusively as cooking space followed by the use of verandahs (21.4%) while 11.2 percent use open space in the compound as cooking space. A higher proportion of rural households (54.3%) use separate room for exclusive use as cooking space compared to (33.4%) of urban households. Furthermore, more urban households (31.5%) use verandahs and 15.6 percent use open space in compound than rural households where 17.2 percent and 9.3 percent respectively use the same facility.

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	553,634	26,095	100.0	100.0	100.0
None no cooking	306,118	29,196	1,549	5.9	5.2	6.2
Wood	2,197,083	267,976	12,904	49.5	20.2	61.6
Gas	996,518	82,912	2,304	8.8	17.9	5.1
Electricity	29,794	3,314	61	0.2	0.2	0.2
Kerosene	29,868	2,413	121	0.5	0.8	0.3
Charcoal	1,844,290	164,627	9,035	34.6	55.3	26.1
Crop residue	45,292	1,864	54	0.2	0.1	0.3
Saw dust	8,000	597	15	0.1	0.1	0.1
Animal waste	2,332	211	9	0	0	0
Other	7,759	524	43	0.2	0.2	0.1
Cooking space used by household						
Total	5,467,054	553,634	26,095	100.0	100.0	100.0
No cooking space	386,883	38,816	1,909	7.3	6	7.8
Separate room for exclusive use of household	1,817,018	258,116	12,563	48.1	33.4	54.3
Separate room shared with other household(s)	410,765	43,983	2,050	7.9	7.4	8
Enclosure without roof	117,614	6,279	260	1	1.8	0.7
Structure with roof but without walls	349,832	26,140	629	2.4	3.7	1.9
Bedroom/Hall/Living room)	74,525	3,685	147	0.6	0.6	0.6
Verandah	1,173,946	115,053	5,583	21.4	31.5	17.2
Open space in compound	1,115,464	60,015	2,912	11.2	15.6	9.3
Other	21,007	1,547	42	0.2	0.1	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

Data on water for household use was classified into two by the 2010 PHC namely, water for drinking and water for other domestic purposes. The main sources of water used in the data collection included; pipe-borne water outside the dwelling, pipe-borne water inside the dwelling, public tap or standpipe, river or stream, sachet water, bore-hole including pump or tube well protected spring, rain water, bottled water, tanker supply/vendor provided and others.

8.7.1 Main Source of Water for drinking

Table 8.10 shows the main source of water for drinking and for other domestic use by households. Four common sources of drinking water used in the district are borehole/pump/tube well which constitute 32.0 percent, pipe-borne outside dwelling (16.2%), protected wells (12.1%) and sachet water with 10.4 percent. Only 2.9 percent of households have piped-borne

water inside dwelling as source of drinking water. In urban areas, 34.4 percent of households have as their main source of drinking water as pipe-borne outside dwelling units while in the rural areas, the main source of drinking water for households is the bore-hole/pump/tube well which constitute 42.1percent. A little over ten percent of households in rural areas use river/stream as their main source of drinking water.

8.7.2 Main Source of Water for other Domestic Use

Table 8.10 further shows that the main source of water for other domestic use for households in the Ahanta West District is borehole/pump/tube well with 34.7 percent. More households (36.6%) in urban areas use the protected well and another 28.1percent use pipe-borne outside the dwelling as water for other domestic use. Forty-four percent of rural households on the other hand, use bore-hole/pump/tube well as main source of water for other domestic use. Other known sources are protected well (16.9%) and the river/stream 13.7 percent.

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

Sources of water	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of drinking water for household						
Total	5,467,054	553,634	26,095	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	790,493	58,258	763	2.9	7.9	0.9
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,039,667	108,321	4,226	16.2	33.4	9.1
Public tap/standpipe	712,375	90,198	1,718	6.6	12.5	4.1
Bore-hole/pump/tube well	1,267,688	100,915	8,350	30.2	7.6	42.1
Protected well	321,091	39,026	3,147	12.1	19.3	9.1
Rain water	39,438	707	89	0.3	0.4	0.3
Protected spring	19,345	1,857	34	0.1	0.2	0.1
Bottled water	20,261	1,734	58	0.2	0.3	0.2
Sachet water	490,283	30,053	2,724	10.4	16.6	7.9
Tanker supply/vendor provided	58,400	3,328	1,905	7.3	0.2	10.3
Unprotected well	112,567	22,976	485	1.9	0.5	2.4
Unprotected spring	12,222	1,850	21	0.1	0	0.1
River/Stream	502,804	90,453	2,363	9.1	1	12.4
Dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal	76,448	3,517	205	0.8	0	1.1
Other	3,972	441	7	0	0	0

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

Sources of water	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Main source of water for other domestic use of household						
Total	5,467,054	553,634	26,095	100.0	100.0	100.0
Pipe-borne inside dwelling	905,566	61,523	792	3	8.3	0.9
Pipe-borne outside dwelling	1,089,030	100,763	3,632	13.9	28.1	8
Public tap/standpipe	704,293	85,182	1,573	6	10.5	4.2
Bore-hole/pump/tube well	1,280,465	104,503	9,066	34.7	12.5	44
Protected well	465,775	61,075	5,910	22.6	36.6	16.9
Rain water	39,916	1,171	62	0.2	0.4	0.2
Protected spring	18,854	1,860	44	0.2	0.3	0.1
Tanker supply/vendor provided	100,048	3,467	1,118	4.3	0.2	6
Unprotected well	152,055	30,543	983	3.8	1.5	4.7
Unprotected spring	15,738	1,885	29	0.1	0	0.1
River/Stream	588,590	96,641	2,645	10.1	1.5	13.7
Dugout/pond/lake/dam/canal	96,422	3,644	218	0.8	0.1	1.1
Other	10,302	1,377	23	0.1	0	0.1

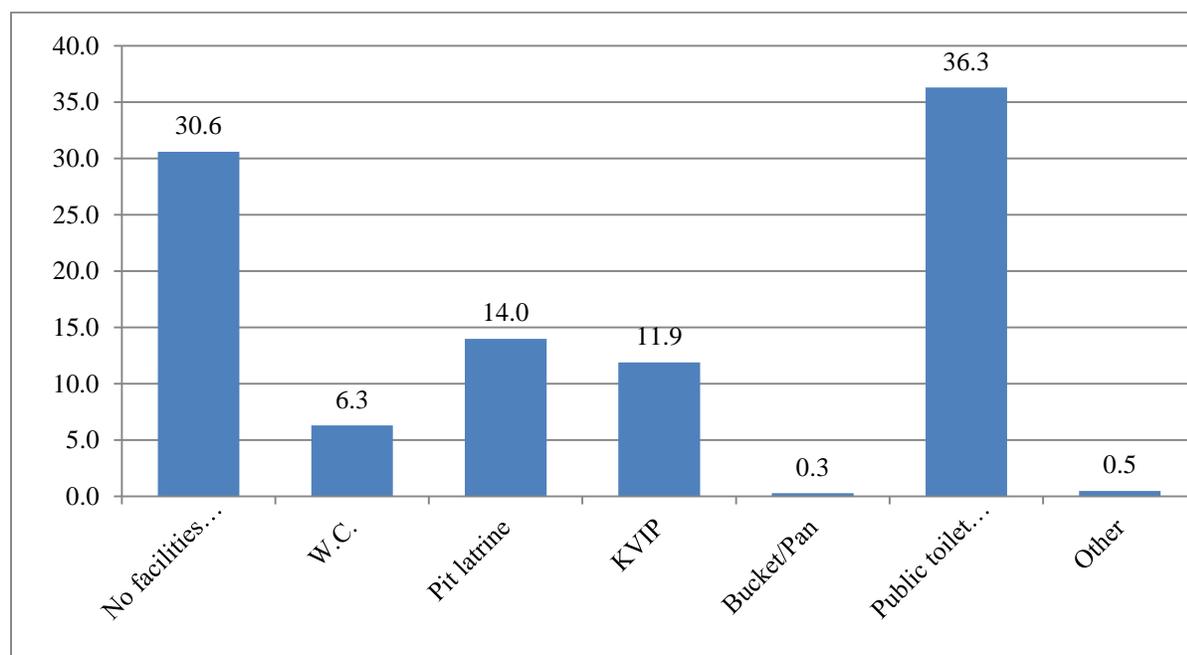
Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.8 Bathing and Toilet facilities

Table 8.11 shows that public toilet is the main type of toilet facility used by majority of households (36.3%) in the district. Another 14.0 percent uses the pit latrine, with a few using the WC (6.3%). Nearly one third of households (30.6%) has no toilet facility and uses the bush/beaches and fields. This is presented graphically in Figure 8.1.

A high proportion of urban households (47.9%) and (13.6%) use the pit latrine and the WC compared to 31.5 percent and 3.3 percent who uses the same facility in the rural areas. Nearly forty percent of households in rural areas have no toilet facility and resort to the use of bush/beach and fields while 8.9% of households in urban areas also do not have toilet facility.

Figure 8.1: Toilet facilities used by households



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

Table 8:11 also shows the type of bathing facility used by households and by type of locality. Shared separate bathroom in the same house is the main bathing facility used by 33.9 percent of households, with shared open cubicle consisting of 21.6 percent. One-fifth of households in the district own bathrooms for their exclusive use. For urban and rural households shared separate bathroom in the same house is the main facility used for bathing and consist of 44.9 and 29.4 percent respectively

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

Toilet facility/Bathing facility	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Toilet facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	553,634	26,095	100.0	100.0	100.0
No facilities (bush/beach/field)	1,056,382	65,781	7,989	30.6	8.9	39.6
Water closet (WC)	839,611	74,100	1,657	6.3	13.6	3.3
Pit latrine	1,040,883	166,530	3,658	14.0	14.5	13.8
KVIP	572,824	34,822	3,114	11.9	14.4	10.9
Bucket/Pan	40,678	2,263	72	0.3	0.2	0.3
Public toilet (WC/KVIP/Pit/Pan etc.)	1,893,291	207,221	9,480	36.3	47.9	31.5
Other	23,385	2,917	125	0.5	0.5	0.5
Bathing facility used by household						
Total	5,467,054	553,634	26,095	100.0	100.0	100.0
Own bathroom for exclusive use	1,535,392	172,397	5,064	19.4	19.1	19.5
Shared separate bathroom in the same house	1,818,522	184,496	8,849	33.9	44.9	29.4
Private open cubicle	381,979	29,430	1,179	4.5	4.1	4.7
Shared open cubicle	1,000,257	81,605	5,638	21.6	24.7	20.3
Public bath house	140,501	12,880	886	3.4	0.2	4.7
Bathroom in another house	187,337	32,531	2,199	8.4	3.2	10.6
Open space around house	372,556	34,738	1,515	5.8	3.6	6.7
River/pond/lake/dam	14,234	4,159	721	2.8	0.1	3.9
Other	16,276	1,398	44	0.2	0.1	0.2

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

8.9 Method of Waste Disposal

The main method of solid waste disposal as indicated in Table 8.12 is the public dump (open space) used by 61.0 percent of households in the district. The second most common method of solid waste disposal by 17.8 percent of households is to dispose off their solid waste into public dump (container). The disposal of solid waste into public dump (container) is the main method used by majority (42.7%) of households in urban areas whiles in rural households (72.2%) dispose their solid waste into the public dump (open space).

With regards to liquid waste, the common disposal method by households is throwing on to the compound (45.3%) whiles disposal through the sewerage system was the least method adopted by households consisting of 0.6 percent. In the urban areas, liquid waste disposal by households is mainly by throwing into gutters (38.8%) whiles in the rural areas, it is mainly by throwing onto the compound (51.5%). The least method of liquid waste disposal is however through the sewerage system in both urban (0.9%) and rural (0.5%) areas.

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

Method of waste disposal	Total country	Region	District			
			Total		Urban	Rural
			Number	Percent		
Solid waste						
Total	5,467,054	553,634	26,095	100.0	100.0	100.0
Collected	785,889	45,630	406	1.6	3.4	0.8
Burned by household	584,820	32,348	2,363	9.1	12.7	7.6
Public dump (container)	1,299,654	116,994	4,653	17.8	42.7	7.5
Public dump (open space)	2,061,403	280,109	15,906	61	33.2	72.4
Dumped indiscriminately	498,868	53,725	1,786	6.8	3.5	8.2
Buried by household	182,615	19,641	797	3.1	3.5	2.9
Other	53,805	5,187	184	0.7	1	0.6
Liquid waste						
Total	5,467,054	553,634	26,095	100.0	100.0	100.0
Through the sewerage system	183,169	14,000	156	0.6	0.9	0.5
Through drainage system into a gutter	594,404	60,735	1,178	4.5	9.8	2.3
Through drainage into a pit (soak away)	167,555	11,486	536	2.1	3.6	1.4
Thrown onto the street/outside	1,538,550	131,104	6,505	24.9	15.4	28.9
Thrown into gutter	1,020,096	119,736	5,025	19.3	38.8	11.1
Thrown onto compound	1,924,986	211,768	11,819	45.3	30.4	51.5
Other	38,294	4,805	876	3.4	1.2	4.3

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

CHAPTER NINE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Summary of Findings

9.1.1 Demographic Characteristic

Population size and distribution

The total population reported for the district is 106,215 persons. Females (55,216) constitute 51.9 percent whilst males (50,999) constitute 48.1 percent. The age distribution of the population in the district indicates a reduction in the population across the age groups as age increases which are mainly influenced by the effect of mortality.

Age sex structure

About 51 percent of the population of the district fall within the aged cohort of 0-19 years, with those within the age cohort of 0-14 forming 41.4% and those in 15-24 years constituting 19.1 percent, this implies that those within the age bracket of 0-24 make about 60.5 percent of the population of the district. Those in age group 60 years and older constitute only 6.3 percent of the population, making the population of the district a youthful one. The distribution by sex also reveals a similar pattern where most of the population is concentrated in the age group 0-14 years (43.4%) and 15-24 years (19.3%); the broad age group of 0-24 years; (62.7%) for males and (58.5%) for females. The high proportion of children and youths constituting the population could put much strain on the district's resources in the provision of educational and social amenities. The district has a sex ratio of 92.4 and a dependency ration of 84.7.

Fertility

The total fertility rate for the district is 3.9 children per woman and is higher than the regional rate of 3.6. The reported crude birth rate is 29.7/1000 while the General Fertility rate is 98.6/1000.

Mortality

The total number of deaths reported is 683 with a crude death rate (CDR) of about 6 per 1000 of the population. Deaths caused by accidents, violence, homicide, or suicide constitute 12.0 percent of all deaths in the district. . There are more male deaths than female deaths among ages 50 to 70, however, from age groups 5-9 to 25-29; the female deaths are higher than males and then both sexes runs apparel from age 70 and above.

Migration

The total number of migrants in the district is 29,320. More than half (64.3%) of the migrants were born elsewhere in the Western region whiles 30.7 percent were born elsewhere in another region. Central region has the highest number of migrants in the district (30.8%). The longest

duration of majority of the migrants (47.1%) in the district is 1-4 years. This could be attributed to the oil find in the district.

9.1.2 Social Characteristics

Household composition

There are 26,095 households in the district. Average household size is 4.0 persons. Children constitute the highest component of the household population with 43.5 percent. It is also worth noting that, there are more male headed households than female-headed households in the district. The household structure that is common in the district is the Nuclear (Head, spouse(s) and children which constitute 35.8percent.

Marital status

About 46 percent of persons 12 years and older are married with about 37 percent never married. The age group 12-14 has the highest percentage (91.9%) of persons who have never been married. A higher proportion of the never married (71.5%) have attained basic education as compared to the married 54.8 percent.

Nationality

Of the total population of the district (106,215), Ghanaians constitute 98.6 percent, with 96.9 percent of the populations being Ghanaians by birth. ECOWAS nationals and nationals from African countries other than ECOWAS also account for 1.1 percent of the population in the district.

Religious affiliation

Christianity (78.6%) is the dominant religion in the district. Those with no religion are 15.4 percent, while Islam, constitutes 3.2 percent and adherents to traditional religion constituting 1.6 percent. More females are Christians compared to males who adhere to Islam, traditional religion and no religion.

Literacy and education

The total literate population of the district is 52,842 (73.4%). Of the literate population, 50.6 percent can read and write in English and Ghanaian language, with less than one percent literate in French and another language. Of persons 3 years and older about 23 percent has never attended school, with 40.8 percent currently attending school. Females have lower percentage with regards to school attendance in the district.

9.1.3 Economic Characteristics

Economic activity

The economically active constitute 75.3 percent of the population 15 years and older in the district. About 94.0 percent are employed with males being more employed than females. As expected, those in lower age groups are mostly economically not active while the employed are in the higher age groups.

Occupation

The main occupation of the people is skilled agricultural, forestry and fisheries which constitute 36.0 percent. There are more males (40.2%) in skilled agricultural forestry and fishery than females (33.1%). On the contrary, females have the highest proportion (33.2%) in the service and sales workers as against 22.1 percent for the males.

Industry

Most of the people of Ahanta West District are predominantly farmers and fishermen constituting 38.1 percent of the workforce aged 15 years and above, with both sexes having a higher proportion of their population in this industry. Whereas the females dominate in the wholesale and retail repair of motor vehicle with a proportion of 25.8 percent, accommodation and food service activities (12.1%) and other service activities (4.7%), the males outnumber them in mining and quarrying industry (2.7%), construction (8.1%) and transportation and storage (9.5%).

Employment status

Majority of population the 15 years and older are self-employed without employees (63.5%) followed by those who are employees (19.9%).

Employment sector

Private informal sector has the highest number of the employed population (85.2%) with the public sector employing less than five percent. More females are in the private sector compared to males.

9.1.4 Information Communication Technology

Of persons aged 12 years and older in the District, forty percent own mobile phones and 47.9 percent of males compared to 33.1 percent of females own mobile phones. Also, only 3.4 percent use the internet facility and as in the case of mobile phone ownership, more males (4.9%) have access to the internet facility compared to the females (2.0%). Furthermore, only 3.5 percent of households in the Ahanta West District own desktop/laptop computers.

9.1.5 Disability

There are a total of 3,039 disabled persons in the district constituting about 2.9 percent of the district population of 106,215. Of the female population, a higher proportion of (3.0%) are disabled persons compared with 2.7 percent of males. Visual or sight impairment (42.7%) account for the highest type of disability in the district. Emotional disability accounts for 8.8 percent of the population disabled. There are more disabled persons in the rural communities of the district (3.3%) as compared to the urban area (1.9%). About half (49.3%) of all disabled persons in the district are employed and 46.8 percent are economically not active.

From the data, 47.8 percent of persons with disability have never been to school. Less than ten percent of the disabled have secondary or higher levels of education.

9.1.6 Agriculture

About 47 percent of the household population in the district are engaged in agriculture. Of urban households, 24.0 percent of households engaged in agricultural activities whereas more than twice the number (56.8%) is in rural households.

The two most important type of agricultural activity engaged in by households are crop farming (94.4%) and livestock rearing (26.2%). Similar pattern is observed in both urban and rural households for crop farming and livestock rearing. Of the total livestock of 69,852, chicken (63.1%) account for the highest type of livestock reared in the district followed by goat (20.8%) and sheep (5.9%). About 1.67 percent of the households are into guinea fowl rearing.

9.1.8 Housing

There are 26,095 households in the district with 7,646 (29.3%) in the urban area and 18,449 (70.7%) in the rural areas. There are more houses in the rural areas (78.8%) as compared to (21.2%) in urban areas. Average household per house is 1.3 with every house not having less than 5 persons in it.

The main ownership status of dwelling units by households in the district is ownership by a household member (62.8%) followed by other private individuals (18.1%). Households who live in public /government owned dwellings constitute 1.2 percent, while 0.5 percent of the households purchased their dwelling units. The main type of dwelling unit in the district is compound house (45.8%). Majority of the urban households live in compound houses (59.5%) with those in separate housing units constituting 21.7 percent. On the other hand, in the rural areas a slightly higher proportion of households rather live in separate housing unit (43.4%) followed by compound houses (40.1%).

The main construction materials used by the households for their outer walls in the district are cement blocks/concrete (55.9%), followed by mud brick/earth (38.8%). Though, the district is endowed with bamboo, it is one of the least types of construction materials used by the households (0.2%). Again, majority of the households (93.1%) use cement/concrete as the main material for the flooring of their dwelling units followed by earth/mud (4.2%). About 51 percent of dwelling units have metal sheets as roofs.

The use of electricity (mains) (70.2%) is the major source of lighting used by households in the district. A higher proportion of dwelling units in the urban areas use electricity (main) (81.2%) compared to the rural areas where 65.6 percent. Majority of households in the district have at most two sleeping room with less than 3.0 percent of households sleeping in six or more rooms.

With regards to type of cooking fuel, 49.5 percent use wood as fuel for cooking. A higher proportion of rural dwellers (61.6%) use wood compared to 20.2 percent of urban dwellers. However, more urban dwellers use gas (17.9%) and charcoal (55.3%) as compared to their rural counterparts in the use of gas (5.1%) and charcoal (26.1%). A higher proportion of rural households (54.3%) use separate room for exclusive use as cooking space than urban household dwellers (33.4%).

Three most common sources of drinking water used by households are borehole/pump/tube well (32.0%), pipe-borne outside dwelling (16.2%) and protected wells (12.1%). About 3.0 percent of households have piped-borne water inside dwelling. Furthermore, whereas 28.0 percent of

urban households in the district use pipe-borne water outside dwelling for other domestic purposes, a higher proportion of rural households (13.7%) use water from river/stream.

Public toilet is the main type of toilet facility used by majority of households (36.3%) in the district, while in urban and rural households; the proportions are 47.9 percent and 31.5 percent respectively. About 31.0 percent of the households in the district have no toilet facilities; hence use the bush, beach and fields. The proportion of households that have no toilet facility is even higher in rural areas (39.6%) than urban areas (8.9%).

One third (33.9%) of the households use shared separate bathroom in the same house as bathing facility with higher proportions (44.9%) in urban areas than rural areas (29.4%) .

The most common method of waste disposal in the district is public dump (open space) with most rural households using this method. Urban households preferred dumping their solid waste in containers at public dumps. Most households in the district dispose of their liquid waste by throwing them onto compounds.

9.2 Conclusions

The population of Ahanta West District is a youthful one since more than 30 percent are between the ages of 10-24 years and this has implications for fertility and youth related infrastructure (schools, hospitals) provision.

Even though, more than half of the population 11 years and older are literate, majority of them end their education at the JHS level hence the need to consider teaching and learning methods in the schools, as well as level of commitment by teachers and students towards teaching and learning. Investigation could also be carried out to establish the true effect of the frequent restructuring of the educational system in Ghana, and its impact on the school children.

About 63 percent of the unemployed are within the youthful age and this creates more pressure on the work force. Also there are more rural dependents than the urban dependents. Furthermore, about 31 percent of the households in the districts have no toilet facilities and hence resort to bushes/beaches which have negative effect on the environment and subsequently on the health of the people.

9.3 Policy Implications

Due to the discovery of oil in the district, the rate of migration is rising very high .Migrants will have to compete with inhabitants for the few social amenities available, therefore the provision of such infrastructure and other social amenities like good roads hospitals, schools, pipe-borne water and modern ICT infrastructure must be provided as a matter of necessity. This would help improve the quality of life of the people, as well as the efficient management of the oil resources.

The fertility rate in the district is not helping women to achieve their full potential as many years are spent in child bearing and child care. Education on family planning issues should be intensified.

There is the need for institutions such as Religious Organizations, Department of Social Welfare, Chiefs and family heads to do all they can within their powers to make the family union stable,

to reduce the incidence of single parenting especially in relation to teenagers with all its social and economic consequences.

The enforcement of government policy on Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education (FCUBE), free exercise books, school feeding programme in the Districts would help to reduce the proportions who have never attended school (22.8%). All effort must be made to retain boys and girls in the school system beyond the JHS level. Retention of girls in school would improve and enhance them socially and economically.

The fact that about 63 percent of the unemployed are between the ages of 20-34 and most of them are first time job seekers indicate the unavailability of jobs for the youth in the labour market. Necessary steps must be taken to provide the facilities for example start-up capital and other factors needed for the establishment of small businesses by fresh entrants to the labour market.

The District Authorities must again, make frantic effort to create the enabling environment for investors to set up industries within the district for the teeming youth to get employed.

Clearly from the findings, it can be concluded that very few households have mobile phones, have access to internet facilities and computers. This has negative implications on access to quick and easy information for development purposes. The district assembly and government must improve access of these facilities by creating more public internet centres and ensure that, the distribution of laptops get to students in the districts.

The District Assembly should intensify sanitation campaigns so as to improve the quality of environmental sanitation in the district. Furthermore, skill development training centres should be built and equipped to train PWDs in various skills that will make them employable. This would go a long way to reduce their vulnerability.

Strategies to modernize agriculture such as improved seeds, access to credit, provision of farm inputs and access to good roads should be targeted to the rural areas and into crop and animal rearing households.

There is a higher proportion of the population without access to adequate and hygienic toilet facilities. The district assembly should enforce Laws on sanitation such as ensuring maintenance and clean public toilet facilities. The District Assembly must ensure that every house have a toilet facility and also punish those who defecate in the open. Access to portable water supply especially in the rural areas remains a big challenge; hence efforts should be geared towards the provision of more portable water in these areas.

Rural electrification projects should be intensified as a significant proportion of households in these areas are still without electricity. Also, the use of solar energy should be intensified. Since the district is endowed with bamboo, the use of bamboo as a construction material should be encouraged and made attractive. This would reduce construction cost and make housing more affordable.

Exploration of Oil and gas in the district is a great potential even though it is associated with many challenges. As such the district assembly should enact local content policies and legislations to ensure that the communities benefit directly.

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APPENDICES

Table A1: Total population, Sex, number of households and houses in the 20 largest communities

S/No.	Locality Community name	Sex			House holds	Houses
		Both Sexes	Male	Female		
1	Agona nkwanta	14,104	6,538	7,566	3,407	1,786
2	Apowa	11,291	5,410	5,881	2,854	1,614
3	Dixcove	5,891	2,792	3,099	1,385	838
4	Kejabil	4,213	2,066	2,147	983	534
5	Akatachi	4,037	2,077	1,960	977	938
6	Funko	3,403	1,661	1,742	808	389
7	Beahu	3,346	1,566	1,780	898	637
8	New amanful	2,557	1,267	1,290	673	357
9	Adjua	2,498	1,197	1,301	578	336
10	Ewusiejo/ewusiejo nkwanta	2,195	1,042	1,153	622	416
11	Hotopo	2,191	1,002	1,189	555	397
12	Agyam	1,991	903	1,088	504	425
13	Agyembra	1,882	912	970	452	472
14	Yabiw	1,767	853	914	379	285
15	Princess town	1,750	784	966	446	507
16	Busua	1,667	810	857	449	342
17	Ewusiejo/ewusiejo nkwanta	1,564	766	798	378	273
18	Old akwidaa	1,518	798	720	482	431
19	New akwidaa	1,441	697	744	376	315
20	Miemia	1,430	720	710	351	291

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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

S/No.	Community name	AGE GROUPS																
		All ages	0-4	9-May	14-Oct	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	Agona nkwanta	14,104	2,034	1,888	1,779	1,527	1,333	1,280	989	864	640	491	377	249	213	127	117	196
2	Apowa	11,291	1,485	1,348	1,346	1,244	1,103	920	798	713	527	404	402	285	214	171	168	163
3	Dixcove	5,891	1,003	882	675	579	511	439	341	333	263	207	179	113	112	80	62	112
4	Kejabil	4,213	626	595	544	435	390	362	266	211	186	154	137	76	79	36	53	63
5	Akatachi	4,037	640	568	471	433	360	281	250	224	209	160	176	59	71	30	58	47
6	Funko	3,403	584	475	461	350	267	264	185	179	167	113	93	75	67	27	38	58
7	Beahu	3,346	445	427	399	325	303	294	231	227	158	132	129	63	81	31	44	57
8	New amanful	2,557	392	303	269	254	275	223	171	154	130	100	70	61	57	35	24	39
9	Adjua	2,498	444	386	586	238	191	157	138	125	106	99	61	32	59	29	40	88
10	Ewusiejo/ewusiejo nkwanta	2,195	274	254	271	208	227	190	108	111	101	90	106	59	62	30	38	66
11	Hotopo	2,191	294	341	274	207	178	139	247	109	108	91	91	38	59	32	33	71
12	Agyam	1,991	270	302	266	223	144	131	93	95	101	84	67	60	64	26	32	33
13	Agyembra	1,882	276	278	243	183	144	146	101	99	71	86	70	29	38	32	40	46
14	Yabiw	1,767	299	266	230	188	156	119	82	87	59	69	55	45	32	31	19	30
15	Princess town	1,750	282	254	210	188	103	99	86	106	87	72	50	42	41	27	41	62
16	Busua	1,667	231	228	188	204	177	140	100	98	65	69	42	38	27	12	19	29
17	Ewusiejo/ewusiejo nkwanta	1,564	184	228	219	187	160	110	99	81	70	74	59	25	15	14	18	21
18	Old akwidaa	1,518	171	210	176	166	107	130	131	106	94	62	35	20	36	12	22	40
19	New akwidaa	1,441	213	196	194	157	104	93	60	63	91	48	53	25	47	17	27	53
20	Miemia	1,430	271	205	180	123	110	115	95	100	65	42	22	27	16	9	23	27

Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2010 Population and Housing Census

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