Republic of Liberia

2008 Census Atlas

LIBERIA INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS AND GEO-INFORMATION SERVICES (LISGIS)

MONROVIA, LIBERIA

September 2011
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Forward .......................................................................................................................................................... i  
Acknowledgement ......................................................................................................................................... ii  

**LIST OF MAPS AND CHARTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 1: Introduction</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 2: Population Size and Distribution</td>
<td>5-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 3: Housing Conditions</td>
<td>11-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 4: Fertility and Nuptiality</td>
<td>23-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 5: Mortality</td>
<td>30-32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 6: Disability and the Elderly</td>
<td>33-34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 7: Education and Literacy</td>
<td>35-45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 8: Gender Dimensions</td>
<td>46-50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 9: Migration and Urbanization</td>
<td>51-57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 10: Labor Force</td>
<td>58-61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 11: Youth and Adolescents</td>
<td>62-65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 12: Poverty</td>
<td>66-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 13: Agriculture</td>
<td>70-77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annex 1</td>
<td>78-80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FORWARD

The post-war socio-economic planning and development of Liberia is a pressing concern to Government and its development partners. Such an onerous undertaking cannot be actualized with scanty, outdated and deficient databases. Realizing the limitation, and in accordance with article 39 of the 1986 Constitution of the Republic of Liberia, the President of Liberia approved, on May 31, 2007, “An Act Authorizing the Executive Branch of Government to Conduct the National Census of the Republic of Liberia”.

The Population and Housing Census is the major source of demographic and social-economic statistics in Liberia. The country has conducted three scientific population and housing censuses at intervals of about ten years since 1962. The latest census being the fourth was conducted in 2008 as post war census. This census collected household-based data on the socio-economic conditions of the population as well as agriculture and other community based information.

The country currently finds itself at the crossroads of undergoing major rehabilitation and reconstruction. Virtually, every aspect of life has become an emergency and in resource allocation, crucial decisions have to be taken in a carefully planned and sequential manner.

The Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS), has published the 2008 Census results in different reports at different times and with varying degrees of detail. This has culminated in the production of the first Census Atlas for Liberia. It has involved extensive consultations and collaboration between the International staff on one hand, and GIS/Cartography Division and other professional staff of LISGIS, on the other hand. It is also worth mentioning that UNFPA provided technical and financial support for the production of this first Census Atlas.

The Atlas presents maps and graphic representations of the spatial distribution of the population, housing and agriculture indicators. The tables that were extracted from the fourteen (14) Thematic Reports and used in production of the maps and figures in this Census Atlas are enlisted in Annex 1.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The success of this first post-war census was a result of the dedicated efforts of the Census Commission, the Development Partners, the Board of Directors, the Management and staff of the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS), Government line ministries and agencies, county officials and local authorities, the 11,618 field staff who were deployed throughout the country and the millions of Liberians and Foreign Residents who responded.

Several International and local analysts have worked assiduously at various stages to translate the data from statistical tables to report formats that can easily be utilized by the Government, International agencies, development partners, other data users and the general public.

We recognize the hard work and laudable contribution of the International GIS Consultant, Mr. Isaac Mwangangi, and the comments and suggestions provided by the UNFPA Country Representative, Ms. E. Fundira. Special appreciation goes to the technical support team of LISGIS: Dr. T. Edward Liberty, Messrs: Johnson Q. Kel, Augustine Fayiah, Dorothy D. Johnson, Richard Ngafua, Charles T. Akoi and Mr. Thomas Davis of the GIS/ Cartography Division.

The 2008 National Population and Housing Census programme is adjudged to have been executed within acceptable limits of the highest international standards, using state-of-the-art technology and expertise at all stages of the census operations. One of these is the use of the GIS/GPS technology in the production of the first Census Atlas of Liberia. The extra resources and other support have been coming from a plethora of organisations whose contributions and moral support are herein acknowledged.

We also extend our thanks and appreciation to the United Nations Population Fund for their continuous support all throughout the tenure of the 2008 Census activities, from the stages of planning, execution, analysis and the completion of the fourteen final reports as well as the production of the Census Atlas. They have contributed varied levels of assistance, from logistics to the provision of technical expertise.

On behalf of the Census Commission and the Board of Directors of LISGIS, I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to the Government of Liberia and our development partners for providing the required resources for conducting this census and producing the Census Atlas. My thanks also go to all local institutions and Analysts that worked with LISGIS to implement and conclude the census programme. Special appreciation for making the census a success goes to Dr. Toga McIntosh, former Chairman of the Commission, the Census Commissioners, the Census Secretariat and other local and international professionals, all categories of census field staff, office staff and all respondents who provided the required information.

Hon. Amara Konneh
Minister of Planning and Economic Affairs
and Chairman of the Census Commission
Chapter 1: Introduction

Introduction

A census is the total process of collecting, compiling, evaluating, analyzing and disseminating demographic, economic, social and spatial data pertaining, at a specific time, to all persons in a country or a well-delimited part of a country.

The population and housing census conducted every decade is a complete count of all the people and households in Liberia. The results represent a snapshot of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the populace of the country, thus enabling planners and policy-makers to measure changes in these characteristics over time. It is also the primary source of information about the number and characteristics of the population in each administrative area. It provides a sampling frame and related functional projections that are necessary for sector planning which affects public expenditure in the areas of education, agriculture and health.

The census exercise provides information on the number of people living in a particular area as well as information on housing, health, education, employment, migration, displacement and disability. The results of the census are important in identifying the extent and nature of social exclusion and resulting service need. Census results are vital in supporting local and national government efforts in planning, implementation and monitoring the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS), as well as support of research and business decision-making processes.

The objective of this atlas is to present the 2008 Liberia Population and Housing Census in an accessible form for a variety of users in the public and private sectors. The atlas highlights the similarities and differences in the socio-economic and demographic conditions between the counties of Liberia, using a number of key variables in the form of maps, charts and tables. The maps show the spatial distribution of the population and their demographic characteristics within counties with brief description of each topic along with corresponding charts.

Data Collection

Due to the civil war, Liberia did not conduct the 1994 and 2004 rounds of censuses. However, on April 21, 2007, the 52nd National Legislature enacted the law empowering the Executive Branch of Government to conduct Liberia’s fourth census in March 2008. The population and housing census was conducted on March 28, 2008 and data collection lasted for a period of ten days.

The aim of the enumeration was to take a count of all persons who were within the border of Liberia by midnight of March 20th (Census Night). Enumeration started on March 21st including the canvassing of institutional and floating populations. The completed questionnaires/schedules were assembled at the divisional census offices for quick checks and validation, such that all cases which required call backs, were attended before the questionnaires were finally dispatched to Monrovia.
Data Entry and Processing

The results of the 2008 National Population and Housing Census were compiled and processed by County, District, Clan and Enumeration Area (EA). The Census Enumeration Area is the smallest census reporting unit. On the average, an EA contains 80-120 households or 496 residents.

The 2008 Census Atlas of Liberia

This atlas maps variables that describe the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population of Liberia as of March 21st, 2008 at county level. The variables that are mapped have been chosen with regards to their usefulness as indicators of demographic and social conditions in the country.

The atlas is intended for Liberian decision makers, development partners, planning agencies, educators and students. In addition, this atlas is being distributed not only to key individuals in government, but also to members of the National Legislature, non-governmental and civil society organizations, economic and social researchers, educational institutions and donors.

The maps in the atlas are produced using thematic mapping approach. This approach shows values for spatial units (such as counties) which are divided into a number of ranges that are represented by various colors or shading. Where maps show areas of deviation from the country average, the class intervals for the range have been chosen with reference to that average. Where needed, the maps are accompanied by textboxes, tables and charts. This is intended to provide concise information about the statistics being mapped and broadly describe the spatial patterns being shown.
Chapter 1: Introduction

Administrative Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Land Area</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Households Heads</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Square Miles</td>
<td>Percent Total</td>
<td>Size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bomi</td>
<td>757.4</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>84,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bong</td>
<td>3,478.42</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>333,481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bassa</td>
<td>3,141.76</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>221,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Mount</td>
<td>1,869.33</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>127,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Gedeh</td>
<td>4,358.69</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>125,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Kru</td>
<td>1,570.61</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>57,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lofa</td>
<td>3,919.39</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>276,863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margibi</td>
<td>10,18.56</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>209,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>930.17</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>135,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montserrado</td>
<td>738.52</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1,118,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nimba</td>
<td>4,600.12</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>462,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivercess</td>
<td>2,225.01</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>71,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinoe</td>
<td>3,912.59</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>102,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Gee</td>
<td>2,065.36</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>66,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gbarpolu</td>
<td>3,904.88</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>83,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>38,490.81</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>3,476,608</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

Brief History of Liberia

Liberia is bounded by Sierra Leone on the West, Guinea on the North, Cote d’Ivoire on the East and the Atlantic Ocean on the South. The territorial area of Liberia is 38,490.81 square miles with a population of 3,476,608.

The climate is humid tropical with two seasons, rainy and dry. The rainy season is from April to October, and the dry from November to March. The average annual rainfall is about 400m. The average annual temperature is 28 degree Celsius.

Liberia was founded in 1822 as a haven for free slaves from North America. Prior to the arrival of the free slaves, the country had long been inhabited by the indigenous Mande, Kwa and Mel tribal groups.

In 1847, Liberia gained independence with its flag, constitution and other key national symbols resembling those of the United States of America. The first government, since 1847 was toppled in a violent Coup d’e’ tat on April 12, 1980. This ushered in the government of the People Redemption Council (PRC) headed by Sgt. Samuel K. Doe who later was democratically elected as President in 1985.

In 1987, Liberia gained independence with its flag, constitution and other key national symbols resembling those of the United States of America. The first government, since 1847 was toppled in a violent Coup d’e’ tat on April 12, 1980. This ushered in the government of the People Redemption Council (PRC) headed by Sgt. Samuel K. Doe who later was democratically elected as President in 1985.

In 1847, Liberia gained independence with its flag, constitution and other key national symbols resembling those of the United States of America. The first government, since 1847 was toppled in a violent Coup d’e’ tat on April 12, 1980. This ushered in the government of the People Redemption Council (PRC) headed by Sgt. Samuel K. Doe who later was democratically elected as President in 1985.

A full-fledged civil war led by Mr. Charles Taylor began on December 24, 1989, and this war lasted for a period of fourteen (14) years.

The war temporarily ended in 1997 with the election of a civilian administration led by Mr. Charles G. Taylor. The war resumed in 1999 and in 2003, Mr. Taylor resigned. An Interim Government of National Transition Government of Liberia (NTGL), headed by Mr. Charles Gyude Bryant, was appointed in 2003. In 2005, general presidential and legislative elections were held ushering in the democratically elected, first female president in Africa, Her Excellency Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf.
Chapter 2: Population Size and Distribution

Average Household Size in 2008

The average household size is a measure of the number of persons per household. It is important in the planning process because many people are found in such social arrangement.

The average household size in Liberia was 5.1 persons. It was 5.3 in rural areas as compared to 4.9 in urban centres.

At the county level, the average household sizes ranged between 4 and 7 people; with Maryland and Grand Gedeh having the highest at 7 persons which is far above the national average. This could be due to three reasons: the rural nature of the counties; migration as a result of job search; and rapid increase in population growth since 1974 (LISGIS, 2009). Montserrado County depicts the least households, about 4 persons. Possibly, this may be due to the high cost of living in urban centers. The national average household size of 5.1 persons was surpassed in nine of the fifteen counties.
Chapter 2: Population Size and Distribution

Distinction of household heads by sex is important because it is often associated with household welfare. For instance, female-headed households are believed to be poorer than male-headed households (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000). With increasing economic hardship particularly during periods characterized by increasing level of unemployment even among educated Liberians, increase in female headship may influence demographic indicators such as mortality and fertility.

Fig: 2-22 shows that more households were headed by females in urban areas (30%) than in the rural areas, (24%). The figure also shows that the reverse holds true for males. Households headed by male were more in the rural areas (76%) than in urban areas (70%).

Viewing the map, at the county level, the highest percentage of female household is in Lofa while the lowest is in Gbarpolu. The main reason for this difference is that Lofa was a battle ground for a long time during the civil conflict and many men lost their lives in combat while Gbarpolu was on the sideline of the conflict.
In 2008, the total number of households headed by children less than 15 years of age was .07%. There were more households headed by male children in the rural area (67%) than in the urban area (42%). However, there were more female headed households in the urban area (58%) than female headed households in the rural area (34%).

At the county level, the map below shows that the proportion of children headed households was highest in Montserrado County and lowest in River Gee County.
Chapter 2: Population Size and Distribution

The index used to measure sex composition of the population is the sex ratio. It is defined as the number of males for every 100 females. A ratio higher than 100 depicts an excess of males and less than 100, an excess of females in the population.

Fig: 2-32 shows that there were about 100 males in Liberia for every 100 females at the time of the 2008 census compared to 102.0 in 1974 and 102 in 1984.

According to the map, the lowest sex ratios were observed in Lofa and Montserrado counties respectively and the highest was recorded in Sinoe County. About 10 out of the 15 counties had higher sex ratio than the national average. However, there was significant decrease in the number of males compared to females observed in Bomi, Lofa, Bassa and Montserrado counties. This may be due to two reasons: Lofa and Grand Bassa were heavily affected by the Liberian Civil War, while many females migrated from rural counties to Montserrado for safety.
Chapter 2: Population size and Distribution

Overall, the population increased from 2.1 million in 1984 to 3.5 million in 2008, an increase of nearly 65% (see Fig: 2-51).

The map shows the distribution of population by county in 2008. The largest share of the population was recorded in Montserrado County followed by Nimba. The lowest proportions were recorded in Grand Kru, River Gee, Rivercess, Gbarpolu, and Bomi.

The population increased between 1984 and 2008 in Grand Gedeh, Maryland, Monserrado, Rivercess and Gbarpolu. In the remaining nine counties (over half of all counties), experienced a decrease in their individual share of the national population. This may be due to two major reasons: Lofa and Nimba experienced high levels of mortality due to the civil conflicts; and the rest of the counties were affected by outward migration to other places for safety.
Chapter 2: Population Size and Distribution

Population Density in 2008

Population density is a measure of the man-land relationship expressed in terms of the number of persons per square kilometers or miles. In 2008, the population density of Liberia was 90 persons per square miles representing a 60.7 percent rise over the figure of 56 attained in 1984.

Population density is classified into four categories at county level as: very densely populated (over 1000); densely populated (100-210); moderately populated (50-99) and sparsely populated (below 50). As expected of a highly urbanized area, Montserrado County was the most densely populated county in Liberia with a density of 1,514 persons per square mile and also with the smallest land area. This is because Montserrado hosts the capital city of Liberia, Monrovia.

The following counties recorded population density above average: Bong (96), Nimba (100), Bomi (111), Maryland (146), Margibi (206) and Montserrado (1,514). The rest of the counties namely: Lofa (71), Grand Bassa (71), Grand Cape Mt. (68), Grand Kru (37), River Gee (32), Rivercess (32), Grand Gedeh (29) and Sinoe (26), recorded below average.
In 2008, one in every four households in Liberia was headed by a female. Nationwide, every county had a small percentage of households headed by female.

Lofa, Bomi, Montserrado, Nimba and Bong counties have significant representation of female household headship. This could be one of the factors attributed amidst many factors, to the impact of the Civil War especially in these counties where combat was more prevalent.
CHAPTER 3: HOUSING CONDITIONS

Map 3-32

Households Main Source of Drinking Water in 2008

Piped-borne, indoor and outdoor accounted for the major source of drinking water, followed by river, lake or spring.

Montserrado and Nimba had the highest usage of pipe-borne or outdoor pump estimated at about 45 percent respectively. The relatively high usage of piped water in these two counties was associated with the Government’s effort to rehabilitate the water distribution systems destroyed by the civil war as well as the presence of many NGOs. Most of the other counties relied heavily on river, lake or spring as main source of drinking water.
In 2008, about one in every ten households in Liberia had access to flush toilet while six percent of households shared flush toilet facility. As reflected on the map, Montserrado County which contains the capital city, Monrovia, had the highest proportion of flush toilets (18%) and shared flush toilets (12%).

The use of bush was widespread throughout all the counties. About 50% of all households relied on bush for human waste disposal. Only 21% of households used covered pit latrine.
CHAPTER 3: HOUSING CONDITIONS

Distribution of Households by Time taken to the nearest Health facility in 2008

Time taken to the nearest health facility is an indicator of accessibility to health services. Fig: 3-36 shows that 30% of the households took less than 20 minutes to access the nearest health facility while 18% used between 20-39 minutes. A significant proportion (31%) took a much longer time, over 80 or more minutes, to reach the nearest health facility.

As shown on the map, the latter trend is permeated throughout all the counties with the exception of Montserrado County. In almost all the counties, most people took a very long time accessing health facility.
Chapter 3: Housing Conditions

Distribution of Households by Time taken to the nearest Primary School in 2008

Nationwide in 2008, access to primary school could be considered as fairly good, as majority of the households (56%) took less than 20 minutes to get to the nearest primary school. This trend is uniformed throughout the fifteen counties. The proportion is even higher for Montserrado County. Overall, only 11% of households took more than an hour to get to the nearest primary school.

The improved access to primary school can be explained by the Government's efforts to meet the MDG targets as well as the support from international partners.
Fifty-seven percent of all households used wood as the main source of cooking fuel. The use of charcoal which is also a derivative of wood comes next at 37%. Other main sources of fuel included kerosene (2%); gas and electricity were used by about one percent of the households respectively.

The map also shows the dominant use of wood in all the counties except for Montserrado County where majority of the households used charcoal. The heavy dependence on wood and charcoal poses health and environmental threat with serious implication for the well being of the nation.
In 2008, more than half (52%) of the households in Liberia were living in self-constructed housing units. Inherited housing units also constituted a sizable proportion (15%). Provision of public housing was limited, Government housing units accounted for only 0.8 percent while the National Housing Authority (NHA) accounted for 0.4 percent.

A high proportion of households in all the counties lived in self-constructed housing units except for Montserrado County which exhibited the lowest (34%). As shown on the map, many of the houses in Montserrado, Bomi and Margibi counties were provided by private owners. Provision of public housing across the counties was very low.
CHAPTER 3: HOUSING CONDITIONS

Distribution of Households by Type of Materials used for the Outer Walls of Housing in 2008

In Liberia, in 2008, 47% of all households resided in housing units whose outer walls were made of mud and sticks while only 22% lived in units made of cement blocks.

All the counties, except Montserrado, had substantial proportion of housing units constructed of mud and sticks for outer walls. Montserrado County had relatively better outer wall materials because it’s the capital city of Liberia and has better economic opportunities for the residents.
CHAPTER 3: HOUSING CONDITIONS

The most common floor type in Liberia was mud (54%), followed by cement (39%). The use of tiles and wood stood at 3.4% and 0.6% respectively. Mud floors accounted for over 50 percent in all the counties except Montserrat County where it accounted for only 18 percent. Most of the households in Montserrat resided in units made of cement floors (70%).
CHAPTER 3: HOUSING CONDITIONS

Ownership of essential household amenities was considered as proxy for income. The 2008 Census collected data on household ownership of the three essential amenities which were: mattress, furniture and a radio.

Most households owned mattress (58%) followed by radio (40%) and then furniture (25%). This pattern is depicted throughout the counties except for counties such as Grand Cape Mt, Lofa, Bomi and Grand Kru where the proportions were much smaller.
CHAPTER 3: HOUSING CONDITIONS

Distribution of Households by Ownership of Non-Essential Amenities in 2008

During the Census operations, non-essential amenities were composed of television, cell phone, motor cycle, vehicle and refrigerator. These items were considered important for news and communication as well as transportation. These household amenities were vital for the comfort of the members of the households; however, they were quite expensive for an average household.

Overall, about 30% of households owned cell phone and less than 10% owned television. The rest of the amenities were far above the reach of the average household.

The map also shows that ownership of cell phone was widespread in all the counties in 2008.
CHAPTER 3: HOUSING CONDITIONS

Three broad types of dwelling units were identified during the 2008 census; permanent, semi-permanent and temporary units. Permanent dwelling units were those dwellings constructed with durable materials such as concrete walls, cement floor, concrete roof and tile floor, zinc roof, among others with a life span of at least fifteen years. Temporary structures were those built of inferior construction materials such as outer walls made of zinc or sticks and mud; roof with bamboo leaves; they often last for at most three years. Semi-permanent structures were those units that were built with a mixture of permanent and temporary materials.

Forty-percent of all households resided in semi-permanent houses, 33% lived in temporary structures while only 27% resided in permanent structures. The map shows that throughout the fifteen counties, very small proportion of household members resided in permanent structures with the exception of Montserrado, Margibi and Grand Bassa counties. Most households lived in temporary and semi-permanent structures.
Although Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 5.8 or 6 children is relatively high by International standards. However, the trend has been fluctuating in Liberia during the intercensal periods, from 6.3 in 1974, to 7.1 in 1984 and 5.8 in 2008.

This map shows TFR distributed among the counties. Accordingly, relatively high TFRs of 8 or more children were observed in the south-east counties of River Gee and Grand Kru. TFRs ranged between 6 and 7 children in the rest of the country except Montserrado County where the TFR is approximately 5 children per woman.

The bar chart below compares TFR by residence. The results show that fertility is relatively higher in the rural area (7 children) than in the urban area (5 children). Several socio-economic and cultural factors can be attributed to the high fertility pattern, i.e. young age at marriage, low or non usage of family planning methods. These are complemented by a very young age-structure which also fuels the momentum for growth.
More males than females were reported as never married. This trend is uniformed throughout the fifteen counties as reflected on the map.

Nationwide, 54% of males were never married, compared to 49% of females. The proportion never married was consistently higher for both sexes in urban areas (57%) than rural areas (53%). The distribution of educational facilities and social development opportunities favor urban areas, hence the rural populace was more apt to get married sooner.
CHAPTER 4: FERTILITY AND NUPTIALITY

Map 4-57

Singulate Mean Age at Marriage in 2008

Nationwide, although the Singulate Mean Age at Marriage fluctuated between males and females during the intercensal period, 1962 through 2008, the general trend seems to depict that the SMAM is gradually increasing for both sexes, from 21.6 years in 1962 to 26 years in 2008.

The map shows that all over the counties, the SMAM is higher for males than females, a tendency that more males delay marriage than females.

It can be observed from Fig: 4-57 that the SMAM for both sexes and either sex in urban area was higher than that of rural, which reinforces the point that single persons in rural areas married earlier than their urban counterparts.
Approximately two in every five persons aged 10 years and above were married in 2008. This proportion is lower in urban area (42%) than rural area (56%). People in urban areas tend to delay marriage due to the availability of educational, employment and other social opportunities which are often lacking in rural areas.

Among the counties, Grand Bassa County depicted the highest proportion of married persons while Montserraado and Maryland showed the lowest.
About 89% of the married population was in a monogamous relationship, implying one man to one woman. Monogamous relationships are more common in rural areas (90%) than in urban areas (87%). Raising a family may be more expensive in the urban area than in the rural area.

Monogamy is widespread throughout the fifteen counties as reflected on the map.
CHAPTER 4: FERTILITY AND NUPTIALITY

In 2008, among the population 10 years and over who were married, about 5% were in polygamous relationship and the rest were in some form of consensual union.

Counties which depict high percentage of polygamous unions include Lofa, Grand Cape Mount and Maryland. Muslims are significantly represented in these counties among whom polygamy is widely practiced.
The divorce rate is the measure of the divorces per one thousand of the married population. The divorce rates in 2008 were 12 for both sexes; 10 and 14 divorces per thousand for male and female, respectively. In the rural area, the divorce rate for both sexes was 14 compared to 10 in the urban areas. The rates were higher among females than males in both urban and rural areas.

The map shows that the highest divorce rates were observed in River Cess, Margibi, Grand Bassa, Bong and Bomi counties. This was followed by Lofa, Gbarpolu, Nimba, Grand Cape Mount and Montserrado counties. The lowest divorce rates were observed in Maryland, Grand Kru, River Gee and Grand Gedeh counties.
CHAPTER 5: MORTALITY

The 2008 Census data confirmed that infant mortality, under-five mortality and child mortality are still relatively high in Liberia. Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in 2008 in Liberia was 78 per 1000 live births, a slight increase from 71 in the LDHS in 2007. The Under-5 Mortality Rate (U5MR) was 119 per 1000 live births compared to 110 in 2007.

Fig 5-24 show that Mortality of male children has been consistently higher than those of female.

The map gives the variation across counties and by gender. Accordingly, the data showed high child mortality experience in every county with the exception of few counties reporting rates below the national level.

The variations in the rates are due to the distribution of basic social services across counties, especially, access to prevention and curative health interventions.
CHAPTER 5: MORTALITY

Crude Death Rate in 2008

Using the number of deaths in households in the last 12 months prior to the census, the crude death rate for Liberia in 2007/2008 was computed and found to be 21 deaths per 1,000. As expected, gender differentials of CDR favor females with 20 per 1,000 while that of males was 22 per 1,000 population (see Fig: 5-31).

The map shows variation in crude death rate across counties. Accordingly counties that reported the highest crude death rates were Bomi and Lofa (27—37) while Gbarpolu, Montserrado, River Cess, Grand Gedeh and River Gee recorded the lowest rates (14-18).
CHAPTER 5: MORTALITY

Maternal Mortality Ratio in 2008

Maternal death, maternal mortality, or “obstetrical death” is the death of a woman during or shortly after a pregnancy. According to the World Health Organization, “A maternal death is defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management but not from accidental or incidental causes”. The 2008 Census recorded Maternal Mortality nationally at 890. As expected, the MMRatio for urban centers (686) was lower than that of rural areas (1,057), because the urban women are more accessible to maternal care than rural women.

In Liberia, the major causes of maternal death are hemorrhage, sepsis (infection) complicated by limited access to skilled delivery (46%), limited or no access to emergency obstetric care, inadequate family planning services and high teenage pregnancy rate. Very little is known about abortion related deaths.

The maternal mortality figures show differentials by counties. Some counties have extremely high ratios compared to others. Counties with very high maternal deaths are; Maryland (1,934), Grand Cape Mount (1,679), Sinoe (1,274) and Grand Kru (1,934). There were few counties below the national figure, such as River Cess (435), River Gee (681) and Gbarpolu (586). However, these are still considered high.

River Gee, River Cess and Gbarpolu were amongst counties with low maternal mortality ratios in the country. This is surprising, because these counties are very remote, lack basic social services, have poor access to health care delivery and exhibit appalling health indicators such as low immunization coverage, antenatal and postnatal care and institutional delivery.
In the Census, the Elderly were defined as people who were 60 years of age and over. In 2008, there were a total of 170,941 elderly people in Liberia constituting about 5% of the population.

Nationwide, elderly females outnumbered their male counterparts, 52% and 49% respectively. The differential by residence showed that there were more elderly female in the urban area (54%) than elderly male (46%). The ratio of the elderly seemed equal in the rural area.

The variation by county can be seen on the map. Accordingly, Lofa County had the highest percentage of elderly female (57.5%) followed by Montserrado (52.8%), Nimba and Grand Kru (52.7%) each.
CHAPTER 6: DISABILITY AND THE ELDERLY

Distribution of Persons with Disability in 2008

The 2008 Population and Housing Census defined persons with disability as those who were at greater risk of experiencing restrictions in performing specific tasks or participating in daily activities. This group included persons who experienced limitations in basic functions, such as walking or hearing, even if such limitations were ameliorated by use of aiding devices.

Disability rate varied across the counties as shown on the map. Disaggregating the data by gender Montserrado County had the highest percentage of female and male disability followed by Bong, Lofa and Nimba Counties.

The chart below also shows that there were slightly more disabled female in the urban area (51%) than the male (49%). The reverse holds true for the rural area, 53% male and 47% female.
CHAPTER 7: EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Map 7-22

Percentage Distribution of School Going Population in 2008

Fig: 7-22 shows that the proportion of the primary school age population was higher in the rural area (46%) than in the urban area (41%). This trend is in line with the overall population distribution of the country whereby there are more people in the rural areas than in the urban areas.

At the county level, Grand Gedeh had the highest proportion of secondary school going age population while Bomi had the lowest. This seems that many young persons of school going age in Bomi migrated to other counties in search of better living.

It can also be observed from Fig: 7-22 that school age population is higher for secondary ages (13-18) in rural and urban residence as compared to post secondary ages (19-24).
Primary School Net Enrolment Rate in 2008

Primary school net enrolment rate (NER) is the percentage of the primary school age (6-12 years) population that is enrolled in primary school.

Fig: 7-35 shows that at the national level, primary school NER was 61% as compared to 69% in the urban area and 55% in the rural area. Also at the national level, NER was 62% for girls, slightly higher than, 61% for boys.

River Gee and Montserrado had the highest NER, while Bong and Grand Bassa had the lowest. These low NERs can be attributed to the economic burdens on parents which prevent them from sending their kids further in school.
CHAPTER 7: EDUCATION AND LITERACY

MAP 7-38

Distribution of Households by Time taken to the Nearest Primary School in 2008

Fig: 7-38 shows that overall, 58% of the households take less than 20 minutes to get to the nearest primary school. About 66% of the urban households were taking less than 20 minutes to the nearest primary school compared to 49% in the rural areas.

At the county level, a good proportion of the households in most of the counties took less than 20 minutes to get to the nearest primary school. The highest proportion of households who took less than 20 minutes to get to the nearest primary school, was recorded in Montserrado County. Grand Bassa County recorded the highest proportion of the households that took more than 80 minutes and above to get to the nearest primary school.
CHAPTER 7: EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Secondary School Net Enrolment Rate in 2008

From Fig: 7-312, the NER for secondary school students residing in urban areas was 34%, twice that for students living in rural areas (17%).

There were more boys than girls attending secondary school in all the counties as shown by the low GPI for each county.

The map further shows that females in Grand Bassa, Bomi and Lofa had the least chance of attending secondary school as portrayed by the low GPs ranging between 0.75 to 0.76. This could possibly be attributed to the early participation of girls in the traditional (Sande Bush) school which in turn facilitates early marriage in these three counties. When girls marry at early ages, they tend to raise the level of fertility which eventually increases the dependency burden on the society.
CHAPTER 7: EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Percentage of Population Aged 13 Years and Above with Incomplete Primary Education 2008

By the age of 13, pupils are expected to have completed primary school education. According to Fig: 7-42, close to 43% of males and over 57% of females aged 13 years and above had not completed primary school level. Rural-urban differentials reveal that more females than males had not completed primary school in the urban and rural areas.

At the county level, Montserrado county had the highest number of pupils with incomplete primary education and the lowest was found in Grand Kru county. The percentages of females who had not completed primary school were by far higher than those of males in each county. This suggests that in past decades, female education was not valued which implies that if no action is taken to arrest this situation, the country will have more illiterate female population which will give rise to high level of fertility.

Fig: 7-42
CHAPTER 7: EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Distribution of Population Aged 13 Years and above by Highest level of Education Completed

Fig: 7-43 shows the percent distribution of the population aged 13 years and above by highest level of education completed. Close to 22% of the population aged 13 years and above had no level of education compared to 46% who had completed university level and above.

At the county level, Grand Kru had the highest proportion of persons who had no level of education, while Grand Bassa had the highest proportion of persons who completed University level and above.

Grand Kru lost almost all of its social infrastructures including schools and hospitals during the war. This made many of the children who were in school to quit school and get involved in other economic activities; others migrated to other parts of the country to seek better lives.
Fig. 7-44 shows the highest level of education attained for all persons aged 15 years and above. The table reveals that 15 percent of all persons aged 15 years and above attained some level of senior high school education compared to 47 percent who had no level of education.

The high proportion for those who had no level of education can be explained by the economic difficulties faced by parents to support their children as a result of the civil war. This forced many children to drop out of school to help their parents with the economic burden.

Grand Bassa had the highest proportion of all persons aged 15 years and above who had no level of education compared to Montserrado with the lowest proportion.
CHAPTER 7: EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Percentage of Population Aged 15-24 Years by Literacy Status in 2008

Fig 7-51 indicates that the literacy rate for the 15-24 year olds was 69%, with males recording 76% while females recorded 63%. As expected, rural-urban differentials show that literacy rate for the urban area 81% was higher than the rural areas 57%.

The map shows that Grand Cape Mount had the highest literacy rate while Grand Bassa had the lowest. This may be due to the fact that with the emergence of new companies in Grand Bassa County, many of the youths in this age group left school and were employed by these companies.

Overall, the literacy rates for males were higher than those of females. This can be attributed to the food production, child-reproduction and child rearing roles of females at early ages.
Policy analysts consider literacy rate a crucial measure of human capital development. Fig: 7-53 indicates that the literacy rate for the whole country was 56% in 2008. The data further show that female and male literacy rates were 46% and 66% respectively. The graph shows that 70% of the literate population was residing in the urban areas compared to 58% in the rural areas.

Sex differentials show that the percentages of literate females were lower than those of males in all counties. This is because, until recently, females were not encouraged to go to school. Three counties, Montserrado, Maryland, and Nimba had literacy rates above the national level.
CHAPTER 7: EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Illiteracy Rate of Population Aged 10 Years and Above in 2008

Fig: 7-55 shows that the illiteracy rate for Liberia was 44% overall, 35% for males and 54% for females. Illiteracy in the rural area is higher (58%) than in the urban area (30%).

At the county level, Grand Bassa and River Cess had the highest proportions of illiterate population while Montserrado had the lowest proportion. Many schools in Grand Bassa and River Cess were destroyed during the war and this may be attributed to the high illiteracy rates in these counties.

Sex distribution shows that the percentage of illiterate females exceeds that of males for all the counties as well as at the national level. Three counties, (Montserrado, Maryland, and Nimba) had the lowest illiteracy rates below the national rate. The high illiteracy among females suggests that their participation in the formal sector of the economy may be minimal.
CHAPTER 7: EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Persons with Disabilities Aged 10 Years and Above by Sex and Literacy Status in 2008

Fig: 7-56 provides literacy rates for persons with disabilities (PWDs) by sex. The results show that 42% of all PWDs aged 10 years and above were literate with females having lower rate (29%) than males (54%).

The map shows that, literacy rates for male PWDs was higher than for females in all counties except in Gbarpolu. The literacy rate for male PWDs was highest in Montserrado and lowest in Gbarpolu County.
CHAPTER 8: GENDER DIMENSIONS

Fig: 8-21 reveals that male headed households were more than female headed households. Overall 73% of the households in Liberia were headed by males compared to 76% in rural areas and 70% in the urban areas. There were more female headed households (30%) in urban areas than in the rural areas (24%).

The map further shows that in all the 15 counties, the proportion of male headed households was higher compared to female headed households. The highest proportion of female headed household was in Lofa and the lowest was recorded in Gbarpolu county.
CHAPTER 8: GENDER DIMENSIONS

Type of Dwelling by Gender of Household Head in 2008

Fig: 8-24 shows that female headed households lived more in semi-permanent structures (43%), than in permanent houses (28%). About 35% of male headed households lived in temporary houses compared to 29% of female headed households.

According to the map, Montserrado County had a high proportion of permanent dwellings for male and female headships as compared to the rest of the counties.
Male headed households in Liberia had slightly more deficiency in flush toilets (87%) compared to female headed households (86%). In addition, female headed households which had piped water deficiency were less (48%) compared to the male headed households (53%). This indicates that male headed households seem to be doing slightly better compared to female headed households when it comes to flush toilets and piped water availability in their households.

There is a marked difference between female and male headed households in every county regarding piped water deficiency. Female households had less deficiency of piped water compared to male headed households.

The map also shows flush toilet deficiency for both males and females in the counties as compared to piped water.
CHAPTER 8: GENDER DIMENSIONS

Crude Death Rates in 2008

The crude death rate for Liberia in 2008 was computed at 11 per 1,000 population as showed in Fig: 8-34. As expected, gender differentials of CDR favored females at 10 per 1,000 while that of males was 12 per 1,000 population.

The map revealed that in all of the 15 Counties of Liberia, CDR were highest in Bomi, Sinoe, Grand Cape Mt., Grand Kru, Maryland and Bong Counties while the lowest was recorded in River Cess county.
CHAPTER 8: GENDER DIMENSIONS

Population Aged 6-12 Years Currently in School by Gender in 2008

Fig: 8-43 shows that the percentage of females currently in school was slightly higher (64%) than that of males (63%). In the urban area, the differential by sex revealed that the proportion of pupils currently in school was slightly higher for males (72%) than for females (71%). Sex differential in the rural areas though smaller, favored male slightly, (57%) compared to female (56%).

The map shows that, in the counties, the highest percentage of population (6 – 12 years) that were currently in school was found in Montserrado, Rivercess, Maryland and Nimba Counties, respectively.
CHAPTER 9: MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION

Map 9-21

Fig: 9-21

The map and Fig:9-21 show the level of in-migrants by counties. The highest percentage of in-migrants were enumerated in Montserrado (49%), Margibi (41%), Bomi (22%), Gbarpolu (18%) and Grand Cape Mount (17%). Nonetheless, there were other counties which had less than 10% of the populations as in-migrants. They were Grand Kru (4%), Bong (9%), Lofa (7%), Nimba (4%) and River Gee (7%).
CHAPTER 9 MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION

Migrants in 2008

A positive net migration rate means that there was a net inflow of migrants, that is, more in-migrants were coming in than those going out while a negative net migration rate implies a net outflow of migrants. A county is said to be a net loser of migrants when the difference is negative and a net gainer when the reverse is true. Net migration can have substantial effect on the size of the population of a county.

Most of the counties (11 out of 15) were net losers of lifetime migrants. The counties, which were most affected with migrants lost, were Bong, Lofa and Nimba. Included in the counties which had net inflow of population were Montserrado, Margibi, Gbarpolu and Grand Gedeh with migrants gain.
CHAPTER 9: MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION

Liberia has experienced displacements of populations between and within counties over a considerable period of time. The spatial distribution of displaced population was greatly influenced by the civil crisis that took place in the country.

Fig: 9-31 shows the volume and spatial distribution of displaced persons in Liberia. About 40 percent of the population aged 14 years and above enumerated in Liberia were displaced, while 54 percent were not displaced.

The map also shows that in 5 out of the 15 counties, there was a slightly higher proportion of displaced population. These counties were Bomi, Lofa, Gbarpolu, Grand Cape Mount and Rivercess.

The map shows that the highest proportion of displacement took place in Bomi and the lowest was recorded in Grand Kru County.
As seen in Fig: 9-36, the distribution of resettled population (14 years and over), on the whole, the proportion of resettled population was slightly higher for females (51%) than males (49%).

The map shows the distribution of resettled population by County and gender. The highest proportion of resettled population were found in Montserrado and Lofa counties. More females than males were resettled in Lofa, Bong, Nimba, Montserrado, Grand Bassa, Grand Gedeh and Bomi Counties, while more males than females were resettled in Sinoe, Gbarpolu, Grand Kru, River Gee, River Cess, Maryland and Grand Cape Mount Counties.
Consider the distribution of international migrants by county of residence. Fig: 9-42 shows that over 56% of the migrants were residing in Montserrado. The other counties with a fairly big share of international migrant population were Lofa (10%), Cape Mount (6%), and Nimba (5%). The rest of the counties had less than 5% of the total international migrant population.
CHAPTER 9: MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION

As shown by the map and Fig: 9-54, the highest share of urban population was recorded in Montserrado County (63%) followed by Nimba (6%), Bong (6%), Margibi (5%), Lofa (5%), Bassa (4%), Maryland (3%), Grand Gedeh (3%), River Gee (1%), Bomi (1%) and Sinoe (1%).

The proportion of urban population was negligible in Cape Mount, Gbarpolu, Rivercess and Grand Kru counties.
CHAPTER 9: MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION

According to Fig: 9-58, urban population by religious affiliation revealed that generally, Christianity is common among urban people. Urban population is composed of 87% Christians and 12% Muslims.

The map shows that, with the exception of Cape Mount County which was predominantly Muslims, all of the other 14 counties revealed a predominance of Christians.
CHAPTER 10: LABOR FORCE

Percentage distribution and Sex Ratio of economically active population aged (15-64 year) in 2008

This section presents the percentage distribution and sex ratio of economically active population aged 15-64 year by County. As can be observed from the map Montserrado county had the largest share of the economically active population. The least shares were observed in Gbarpolu, Bomi, Rivercess, River Gee and Grand Kru.

Fig:10-27 shows that Bong, Grand Bassa, Grand Kru, Lofa and Nimba Counties had less economically active female population. These counties were most affected by the war because most of the fighting groups eminated in these counties. The ratio is also low in the urban areas as compared to the rural areas.

The counties whose sex ratio were above 100 were Sinoe, Gbarpolu, Maryland, Grand Gedeh, Rivercess, Cape Mount, River Gee, Margibi, Bomi and Montserrado. These counties were more reliant on labor intensive agriculture, while Bomi and Grand Cape Mount reliant on mining.
Distribution of Child Labor by Sex in 2008

In 2008, male child labor was 52% compared to 48% for female. There was high concentration of female child labor in the urban (52%) compared to their male counterparts (48%). In the rural area, the reverse holds true, male (53%) and female (47%). This high proportion of male child labor in rural areas may be prevalent because the rural populace was mostly engaged in agricultural production, which is generally labor intensive.

The highest proportion of child labor was recorded in Gbarpolu and Maryland counties. These counties have poor infrastructures and hence more dependent on subsistence agriculture, which is labor intensive. Nimba County showed the lowest child labor rate, this may be attributed to the availability of schools as well as employment for parents.

Maryland and Lofa Counties accounted for high female child labor participation because of their cross border trade, majority of whom were female traders. Sinoe and Margibi Counties contributed the highest male child labor because the male children were engaged in income generating agricultural activities in these counties.
CHAPTER 10: LABOR FORCE

This section analyses the dependency ratio in Liberia in 2008. Dependency ratio is defined as the population aged 0-14 and 65 years and above who depend on the labor force or economically active (15-64) population. Fig: 10-45 reveals that Liberia’s dependency ratio was 83%. The ratio was 91% in the rural areas as compared to 75% in the urban areas.

The map shows that Nimba and River Gee had the highest dependency ratio, between 95-98%. The lowest dependency ratio was recorded in Grand Gedeh and Montserrado counties, between 69-71%. This implies that generally, Liberia carries a heavy dependency burden.
CHAPTER 10: LABOR FORCE

Unemployed Persons in 2008

Unemployment rate refers to the ratio of unemployed persons to the labor force (15-64 years). Fig 10-46 shows that unemployment rate for female was less than for male in urban and rural areas.

At the county level, the map indicates that Montserrado County had the highest unemployed persons with the male slightly above the female. The least unemployment rate was recorded in River Cess County. Gbarpolu County reported the highest unemployment rate for female compared to male. This may be due to the type of economic activity in the county which is mainly mining, often dominated by men.
CHAPTER 11: YOUTH AND ADOLESCENTS

Youth Population by Five-year Age Groups in 2008

Fig: 11-21 shows the population of youth and adolescents classified into three five-year age groups (10-14, 15-19, 20-24) cross-classified by sex. In the 10-14 age group, there were predominantly more males than females in all of the counties with the exception of Margibi and Montserrado counties where more females existed.

Among the 15-19 age group, eleven counties showed distribution of more males than females, while Bong, Bassa, and Montserrado counties showed the contrary in favor of females. Regarding the young adults aged 20-24 years, the pattern seems to reverse, 10 counties reflected female dominated population. This condition may be attributed to the aftermath of the civil war where male mortality or migration could have been high.
CHAPTER 11: YOUTH AND ADOLESCENTS

Distribution of Youth and Adolescents (10-24 years) by Literacy in 2008

Fig: 11-45 shows that more males can read and write compared to females in Liberia (72% males and 64% females). In the urban areas, 82% males were literate compared to 76% females. In the rural areas, 61% males and 50% females could read and write.

The map shows that in all counties, more males were literate than females. The county with the highest percentage of literates was Montserrado followed by Nimba, Maryland and Margibi counties. The lowest literacy was recorded in Bassa County.
The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) as reported by the 2008 National Population and Housing Census stands at 6 children per woman. This is quite high by international standards. The TFR for the youth and adolescents is 2 children for the rural areas and 1.4 for the urban areas. The slightly high adolescents fertility in the rural areas could be attributed to early marriages, low education levels of women, limited social development opportunities and unavailability and lack of knowledge of family planning services compared to urban centers.

It is further revealed that adolescents fertility was high (1.9-2.0) in Bomi and Grand Bassa counties. Grand Gedeh and Lofa fell in the range of (1.4-1.6) children. Only Montserrat had the least of (1.3) children. The rest of the counties fell in the range of (1.7-1.8) children. Most of the educational, social and economic development as well as employment and health services are concentrated in Montserrat County. These conditions contributed to the low adolescent’s fertility level in Montserrat County when compared to the rest of the counties.
Fig: 11-82 shows that 21,766 youth and adolescents aged 10 – 24 years were disabled in 2008. Thus, on average, about 2% of the youth and adolescents were disabled. Most of these disabilities were caused by the civil crisis.

About 10,504 (48%) disabled youth and adolescents lived in the urban areas while 11,262 (52%) were in the rural areas.

The distribution of the disabled youth and adolescents was highest in Bong, Bomi and Lofa, 3% each. Margibi, Bassa, Montserrado, River Cess, River Gee, G. Cape Mount, Nimba and Maryland each had 2% and Gbarpolu, Grand Gedeh, Sinoe, Grand Kru had 1% each.
Fig: 12-46 shows that nearly 52% of the households in the country had poor access to health facilities since they reported taking more than 40 minutes to reach the nearest health facility. In the rural areas, 76% of the residents took more than 40 minutes to reach the nearest health facility as compared to 27% in the urban areas.

Map 12-46 shows that Bong, Grand Bassa, Gbarpolu and Rivercess had the least access to health facilities with 70% to 82% of the households taking 40 minutes and above to reach the nearest health facility. In Montserrado County, between 28% and 42% of the households took more than 40 minutes to reach the nearest health facility.
CHAPTER 12: POVERTY

Fig: 12-410 shows that the proportion of households with unmet basic needs or deficiency in essential assets (85%) such as electricity, housing, piped water, flush toilet stood at 95%, 33%, 61% and 87% respectively.

The map shows high proportions of households in all the counties with serious deficiency in essential assets, electricity, piped water and flush toilet. Electricity deficiency was lowest in Montserrado, Margibi, Nimba and Bong counties.
CHAPTER 12: POVERTY

As displayed in Fig: 12-412, poverty was wide-spread among the rural population (75%) as compared to urban areas (48%). Nationally, the proportion of the poor was 62%.

The highest levels of poverty were recorded in Sinoe, Grand Bassa, River Gee, Gbarpolu, Grand Kru and Rivercess (74—84). Although the proportion of the poor in Montserrado was between 45- 54%, it accounted for a large number of the poor because of the large population size.

Generally, the country is faced with very high poverty levels and poverty programs should therefore target them to increase the chances of success in poverty reduction.
According to Fig: 12-55, the proportion of the youth resident in temporary houses was 31% which was not significantly different from those whose heads were in the most economically active group at 32%. The elderly (64 years and above) had a higher proportion of those living in temporary housing units compared to the other age groups.

The youth and elderly headed households living in temporary housing units were high in Rivercess, Grand Kru, and River Gee Counties.
CHAPTER 13: AGRICULTURE

Proportion of Population in Agricultural Households

The overall total population in the agricultural sector constituted 53% of the total population of Liberia. The proportion of the agricultural population living in urban areas was 21% compared to 82% in the rural areas. Nationally, males and females participated in agricultural activities in almost the same proportion at 50%. This scenario was unexpected, since women tend to participate in agricultural activities more than men in most of sub-Saharan Africa.

MAP 13.21 shows remarkable differences in the proportions of agricultural populations between Montserrado and the other counties. As expected, Montserrado containing the Capital City Monrovia, had the lowest proportion of the population involved in farming followed by Margibi. In contrast, Grand Kru, a county far away from the capital city had the highest proportion of its population participating in agriculture followed by Nimba, Gbarpolu, Bong, River Gee, Lofa, and Rivercess.
CHAPTER 13: AGRICULTURE

Cassava Producing Households in 2008

Cassava is a crop that is consumed by most Liberians and sold as cash crop in Liberia. As shown in Fig. 13-32, cassava was reported to be grown by 80% of all the agricultural households in Liberia and 63% and 81% in urban and rural areas, respectively. The proportion of female headed households who grew cassava were more in urban areas at 28% than in rural areas at 22%.

According to Map 13-32, the highest proportion of cassava growing households was recorded in Grand Kru, Rivercess, Grand Cape Mount and Sinoe. Lofa County had the lowest proportion of cassava growing households. The proportion of female headed households was lower than male headed households in all the counties.

Map 13-32

Cassava Producing Households in 2008

Fig: 13-32
Rubber farming is one of the most popular agricultural activities for investment and a leading export crop of Liberia. Fig. 13-41 shows that the proportion of rubber growing households was 15%, 10% and 16% nationally, urban areas and rural areas respectively. As expected, the proportion of the urban households producing rubber was 9.8%, which was much lower than was found in rural areas (16%). Similarly, the male headed households producing rubber were higher in proportion (85%) in rural areas than in urban areas (82%).

Map 13-41 further shows percent shares of rubber producing households by county. It can be observed from the map that four of the counties, namely Maryland, Nimba, Rivercess, and Grand Bassa had relatively high proportions of agricultural households producing rubber. They are followed by Margibi, Bong, Montserrado and Grand Kru; Grand Gedeh and Lofa with 2 percent each had the lowest proportion of their households participating in rubber farming.
CHAPTER 13: AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Households Growing Oil Palm in 2008

Oil palm is well adapted to Liberian climatic conditions. The crop grows almost everywhere from swamp to upland areas and survives the scratch and burn agricultural practices. Fig. 13-42, shows that the households in Liberia that participated in producing oil palm constituted 11% of total agricultural households. The number of agricultural households reported producing oil palm in the urban and rural areas were 9%, and 12%, respectively. Male-headed oil palm households were 82%, 77% and 83% overall, urban and rural areas respectively. Female-headed were 18% overall and 23% and 18% in the urban and rural areas respectively.

Map 13-42 shows that the percent shares of agricultural households by the oil palm households at the county level. Grand Cape Mount leading, followed by Nimba, Margibi, River Cess and Grand Kru. Grand Gedeh had the lowest proportion. Lofa female headed households had the highest proportion of agricultural households farming oil palm compared to Gbarpolu where female headed households participated the least.
Agricultural Households Growing Cocoa, 2008

Cocoa is one of the export crops of Liberia, cultivated by small scale traditional farmers. According to Fig. 13-43, agricultural households that reported producing cocoa were 11%. This varied with urban areas having households producing cocoa 8%, and rural agricultural areas with 12%. Male-headed cocoa producing households were 81%, which were distributed in urban and rural areas at 81% and 77% respectively. The female-headed cocoa producing households were 19% varying from 19% in the rural areas to 23% in the urban centers.

Among the counties, Lofa reported the highest proportion of agricultural households producing cocoa, followed by Nimba and River Gee. The highest proportion of agricultural households who were female headed was recorded in Lofa while Grand Bassa had the lowest.
Coffee is cultivated by small scale traditional farmers in Liberia. Fig: 13-44 shows that agricultural households who were producing coffee constituted 8% of the total agricultural households. In the urban and rural areas, the proportions were 7% and 8%, respectively. The proportions were highest for male than female as follows: 78% and 22% overall, 77% and 23% in urban areas and 73% and 21% in the rural areas.

On the county basis, Lofa, followed by Nimba had sizeable proportions of agricultural households who produced coffee. In contrast, the lowest proportions of agricultural households that produced coffee were observed in Maryland, Grand Kru, Sinoe, Grand Bassa and Bomi counties..
CHAPTER 13: AGRICULTURE

Households Growing Sugarcane in 2008

Sugarcane is one of the major cash crops, cultivated by small scale traditional farmers in Liberia. In Fig: 13-45, the proportion of agricultural households who reported growing sugarcane was 10% of the total agricultural households. The proportion was 10% in both urban and rural areas. Overall, male-headed sugarcane farming households were 81% as compared to 77% and 82% in urban and rural areas respectively. Similarly, female-headed sugarcane farming households were 23% in urban areas compared to 19% in rural areas.

In terms of counties, highest proportions of agricultural households growing sugarcane were recorded in Nimba followed by Maryland, Montserrado, Grand Kru, Bong and Margibi. In contrast the lowest proportions were recorded in Grand Gedeh followed by Cape Mount, Bomi, Lofa, Rivercess and River Gee. The proportion of male headed households who were producing sugarcane dominated in all the counties.
CHAPTER 13: AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Households Rearing Livestock, 2008

Fig: 13-51 shows that the number of agricultural households who reported rearing livestock constituted 8% of the total agricultural households. In relative terms, the proportion of agricultural households engaged in livestock farming was higher in urban areas 9% than rural areas 7%. This is not a surprise given that the rural households do not have money to invest in livestock farming. In addition, it is possible that many of the urban residents do farming of animals in the rural areas where there is a lot of land. The participation of female headed households was 21% in animal rearing at national and 24% and 20% at urban and rural levels respectively.

Map 13-51, shows that, across the counties, Margibi had the highest proportion of its agricultural households rearing livestock, followed by River Gee, and Nimba. Low participation was recorded in almost half of the counties starting with Grand Gedeh followed by Grand Kru, Bomi, Grand Cape Mount, River Cess, Maryland and Gbarpolu. Female headed households’ participation was highest in Lofa and Bomi.
ANNEX 1

Note: The tables enlisted below were used in the production of the maps and figures shown in the Census Atlas. These tables, which numbering has been maintained, were extracted from the fourteen (14) Thematic Reports.

LIST OF TABLES

Chapter 2: Population Size and Distribution

1. Table 2.1: Average Household Size in 2008
2. Table 2.2: Distribution of Households by Sex of Head and Residence in 2008
3. Table 2.3: Distribution of Households headed by Children (less than 15 years) in 2008
4. Table 3.2: Sex Ratio in 2008
5. Table 5.1: Distribution of Population in 2008
6. Table 5.2: Population Density in 2008

Chapter 3: Housing Conditions

1. Table 2.2: Household headship by Sex in 2008
2. Table 3.2: Distribution of Households by Main Source of Drinking Water in 2008
3. Table 3.4: Distribution of Households by Type of Human Waste Disposal System in 2008
4. Table 3.6: Distribution of Households by Time Taken to the nearest Health Facility in 2008
5. Table 3.8: Distribution of Households by Time Taken to the nearest Primary School in 2008
6. Table 3.10: Distribution of Households by Main Source of Fuel for Cooking in 2008
7. Table 4.2: Distribution of Households by Ownership Status in 2008
8. Table 4.6: Distribution of Households by Type of materials used for Outer Walls in 2008
9. Table 4.8: Distribution of Households by Type of Floor in 2008
10. Table 5.1: Distribution of Households by Ownership of Essential Amenities in 2008
11. Table 5.3: Distribution of Households by Ownership of Non-Essential Amenities in 2008
12. Table 5.5: Distribution of Households by Quality of Housing Units in 2008

Chapter 4: Fertility and Nuptiality

1. Table 3.1: Total Fertility Rates in 2008
2. Table 5.3: Percentage of Never Married Population Aged 10 years and over in 2008
3. Table 5.7: Singulate Mean Age at Marriage in 2008
4. Table 5.12: Percent Currently Married by Sex and Residence in 2008
5. Table 5.16: Percentage of Population Aged 10 years and over in Monogamous Marriage in 2008
6. Table 5.17: Percentage of Population Aged 10 years and over in Polygamous Marriage in 2008
7. Table 5.32: Divorce Rate in 2008

Chapter 5: Mortality
1. Table 2.4: Child Mortality Rates by County and Gender
2. Table 3.1: Crude Death Rates in 2008

Chapter 6: Disability and the Elderly
1. Table 2.1: Percentage Distribution of the Elderly in 2008
2. Table 3.1: Percentage Distribution of Persons with Disability in 2008

Chapter 7: Education and Literacy
1. Table 2.1: Distribution of School-going population in 2008
2. Table 3.5: Primary School Net Enrolment Rate in 2008
3. Table 3.8: Distribution of Households by Time taken to the Nearest Primary School in 2008
4. Table 3.10: Secondary School Gross Enrolment Rate and Gender Parity Index by Residence and County in 2008
5. Table 3.12: Secondary School Net Enrolment Rate in 2008
6. Table 4.2: Population Aged 13 years and above with Incomplete Primary education in 2008
7. Table 4.3: Distribution of Population Aged 13 years and above by Highest Level of Education completed in 2008
8. Table 4.4: Population Aged 15 years and above by Highest Level of Education completed, 2008
10. Table 5.3: Literacy Rate of the Population Aged 10 years and above in 2008
11. Table 5.5: Illiteracy Rate of the Population Aged 10 years and above in 2008
12. Table 5.6: Distribution of Persons with Disabilities (Aged 10 years and above) by Sex and Literacy Status in 2008
Chapter 8: Gender Dimensions

1. Table 2.1: Distribution of Household headship by Gender in 2008
2. Table 2.4: Type of Dwelling by Gender of Household head in 2008
3. Table 2.6: Deficiencies on Flush Toilet and Piped Water by Gender in 2008
4. Table 3.4: Crude Death Rates by Gender and County in 2008
5. Table 4.3: Distribution of Population 6-12 years and above, currently in School by Gender, Residence and County in 2008

Chapter 9: Migration and Urbanization

1. Table 2.1: Distribution of In-Migrants in 2008
2. Table 2.2: Distribution of Lifetime Net-Migrants by County in 2008
3. Table 3.1: Distribution of Population 14 years and over by Displacement Status in 2008
4. Table 3.6: Distribution of Resettled Population 14 years and above in 2008
5. Table 4.2: International Migrants in 2008
6. Table 5.2: Distribution of Urban Population in 2008
7. Table 5.8: Distribution of Urban Population by Religion in 2008

Chapter 10: Labor Force Analysis

1. Table 2.7: Distribution of Economically Active Population (Aged 15-64 years) by Sex in 2008
2. Table 3.6: Distribution of Child Labor by Sex in 2008
3. Table 4.5: Dependency Ratio in 2008
4. Table 4.6: Unemployed Persons in 2008

Chapter 11: Youth and Adolescent

1. Table 2.1: Household Population by five-year age group in 2008
2. Table 4.5: Distribution of Youth and Adolescents (10-24 years) by Literacy in 2008
3. Table 6.2: Total Fertility Rate of Youth Aged 15-24 years in 2008
4. Table 8.2: Disabled Youth and Adolescents Aged 10-24 years in 2008
Chapter 12: Poverty

1. Table 4.6: Distribution of Households by Health Care Deficiency (taking 40 minutes and above to the nearest Health Facility) in 2008
2. Table 4.10: Distribution of households with Unmet Basic Needs by County in 2008
3. Table 4.12: Distribution of the Poor in 2008
4. Table 5.5: Distribution of Household head by Age in 2008

Chapter 13: Agriculture

1. Table 2.1: Population in Households that practice Agriculture in 2008
2. Table 3.1: Rice Producing Households in 2008
3. Table 3.2: Cassava Producing Households in 2008
4. Table 4.1: Rubber Growing Households in 2008
5. Table 4.2: Oil Palm Growing Households in 2008
6. Table 4.3: Cocoa Growing Households in 2008
7. Table 4.4: Coffee Growing Households in 2008
8. Table 4.5: Agricultural Households Growing Sugar in 2008
9. Table 5.1: Agricultural Households Rearing Livestock by Residence and County in 2008
The Liberian Government and its Development Partners for the 2008 National Population and Housing Census