

2013

POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS



THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA



THE CHILDREN REPORT

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List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

DHS	Demographic & Health Survey
GBoS	Gambia Bureau of Statistics
HDI	Human Development Index
ILO	International Labour Organization
LGA	Local Government Area
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
UN	United Nations
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WHO	World Health Organization

Concept and Definitions

Activity status: According to the ILO definition, activity status divides the population into three groups: employed, unemployed and economically inactive persons.

Child: The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) defines a child as a boy or girl under the age of 18 and considers a child as both an individual as well as a member of a family and a community. This definition is adopted in this report.

Disability: A person with disability is defined as someone who is limited in the kind or amount of activities that he or she can do because of on-going difficulties due to long-term physical condition, sensory impairment or health problem.

Economic Activity: The population aged 7 years and over is divided into two distinct groups:

- Economically active (those in the labour force) and
- Economically inactive (those not in the labour force).

Economically Active Population: Also known as the labour force, is a country's working-age population that engages actively in the labour market, by either working or looking for work. It provides an indication of the relative size of the supply of labour available to engage in the production of goods and services.

The census follows the internationally recommended definitions for Economically Active Population agreed by the International Labour Organization (ILO), defining it as a group of persons who during an established reference period, furnish the supply of labour for the production of goods and economic services or are available to do so and carry out actions to incorporate themselves into said production.

Economically Inactive Population (Not in the Labour Force): The population not currently economically active or persons not in the labour force, comprises all persons who were not employed or unemployed during the reference period and hence, not currently active because of being a full time student, being exclusively a housewife, on retirement or old age, or other reasons such as a person with disability.

Employed: This represents the total number of persons actively employed, or had a job. It consists of all persons aged 7 years and over, who during the reference period, were in the following categories:

- At work, that is, persons who during the reference period performed some work for wage or salary either in cash or in kind or worked without pay;
- Had a job to go back to, but did not work within the reference period

Homemaking: A person wholly engaged in household or domestic duties / chores and does not have remuneration for the work done.

Illiteracy: Inability to read and write in any language using Arabic or Roman script

Literacy: Ability to read and write in any language using Arabic or Roman script.

Rural: Settlements that do not meet the criteria of an urban settlement described below are considered rural.

Urban: According to the 2013 Population and Housing Census, a settlement is considered urban if it satisfies most the following:

- Has commercial importance
- Has institutional importance
- Majority of the population should be non-agricultural in occupation
- Population should be 5,000 and above
- Density should be high
- Some degree of infrastructure should be available

Unemployed: This comprises all persons aged 7 years and over, who during the reference period were:

- Without work and had no fixed jobs
- Available for work
- Seeking for work

Preface

This is Volume 11 of the 2013 Population and Housing Census report. The report contains information on children and their characteristics. The information contained in this report will enable government to not only formulate appropriate sector action plans but also monitor and assess the impact of implemented policies on children.

We hope the information in the report will complement other data sets to enhance policy formulation on children and will contribute to the improvement of quality of life of The Gambia.

We thank Mr. Samba Barrow for the preparation of this report. We also thank other GBoS Staff for finalizing this report.

We wish to extend our sincere appreciation to The Gambia government for providing funding for the conduct of the census, and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for their support both technical and financial for the conduct of the 2013 Population and Housing Census.



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Statistician General

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The results of the Population and Housing Census of 2013 show that the total population of children aged 0-17 years was 917,034. This represents an increase of 37.2 per cent compared to a number of 668, 395 children in 2003. Compared to the inter-censal period of the 1993-2003 where the population of children increased by 41.0 per cent, this represent a decline in the growth of the children population by 3.8 per cent.

The population of male children was slightly higher than female—50.2 per cent and 49.8 per cent respectively. The analysis further shows that a majority of the children resided in the urban areas not only because of migration but also reclassification of some rural areas as urban. About 54 per cent of the total female children and about 53 per cent of the total male children resided in urban areas in contrast with 46.1 per cent of females and 47.2 per cent males in the rural areas.

Of the 754, 591 children who were aged between 3-17 years, 39.3 per cent had never been to school, 57.5 per cent were attending school at the time of the census while 3.2 per cent went to school in the past. There were more female children with primary school education compared to male children—31.3 per cent and 30.9 per cent respectively. The increase in female enrolment in primary school education could be the result of the various interventions/advocacy campaigns by Government and its development partners.

At least six out of every ten children aged 7-17 years, could read and write (literate) using the Arabic Script or the Roman Alphabets, 64.0 per cent and 62.5 per cent of the total males and females population respectively were literates. Two out of ten children of the same age group (7-17 years) could not read and write in any script—they were illiterates, 23.0 per cent and 25.0 per cent of the total males and female populations respectively were illiterates.

The proportion of children who were illiterate was highest in Brikama (29.3 per cent), followed by Basse (20.8 per cent) and Kerewan (13.4 per cent). Banjul had the least proportion of children who were illiterates 0.7 per cent, followed by Mansakonko (4.1 per cent) and Kuntaur (9.9 per cent).

Questions on marital status were addressed to 250, 353 children aged 12 years and over. Of these, 95.9 per cent had never been married while 4.0 per cent were married. Insignificant number of the children were divorced, separated or widowed.

Information on economic activity status was collected from 502,827 children of whom 250,619 were males and 251,882 females. Out of these children, 82.7 per cent were students not engaged in any sort of employment, had no job and not available for work (12.8 per cent), homemaker's activities (4.0 per cent) and less than one per cent were engaged in other activities

The highest proportion of working children was registered in Kuntaur 97.8, followed by Kerewan 96.7 per cent, Basse 96.3 per cent, Mansakonko 95.8 per cent, Janjanbureh 89.1 per cent and Brikama 81.1 per cent. Banjul and Kanifing had the lowest proportions of working children—76.0 and 77.0 per cents respectively.

The data further shows that male children constituted the highest proportion of children employed with 57.8 per cent and female (42.2 per cent). A significant proportion of the male children were employed in the agricultural sector (76.5 per cent), followed craft and related workers (14.6 per cent), service shop and market sales workers (3.9 per cent), elementary occupation (2.6 per cent) and. In addition, a significant proportion of females (eight out of every ten) were engaged in agricultural work (85.5 per cent) and services, shop and market sales workers (7.8 per cent). Majority of both male and female workers were in the age cohort of 15–17 years with 38.6 and 42.2 per cent respectively.

For the employed children, more than half of them were employed as unpaid family workers (53.4 per cent), self-employed (37.4 per cent), employed for pay (5.9 per cent) and about 2 per cent were engaged in other types of employment categories not specified such as apprentice /volunteers. Unpaid family workers were common in the rural areas where children assist in family farms or gardens.

Analysis of the data by sex shows that more males 57.8 per cent were employed compared to their female counterparts of 42.2 per cent. For the males employed, unpaid family workers constituted (31.5 per cent), self-employed—19.6 per cent and paid employees—4.2 per cent. Among the employed females, unpaid family workers constituted 21.9 per cent, self-employed—17.7 per cent) and paid employees 1.7 per cent

There were 2,885 children out of the 815,683 children (2-17 years) with disabilities. This translates to about four in every one thousand children. Children with disabilities were highest among males 54.2 per cent than females 45.8 per cent.

Prevalence of disability among children was highest in Brikama with 37.0 per cent, followed by Kerewan (14.6 per cent), Basse (13.3 per cent), Kanifing (11.9 per cent), Kuntaur 7.1 per cent, Janjanbureh 7.1 per cent and Mansakonko 6.6 per cent. Banjul had the lowest proportion of children with disability—2.5 per cent.

Hearing difficulties was the most prevalent type of disability among children. More than one-quarter (25.9 per cent) of children with disabilities had hearing difficulties. The second most prevalent disability among children was physical disability (25.7 per cent), ‘seeing’ or problem with vision accounted for 16.3 per cent while speech difficulties (‘speaking’) accounted for 13.7 per cent. The proportion of children with ‘strange behaviour’ was about 8 per cent while 5.5 per cent had seizures (‘fits’). About 3 per cent of children had learning difficulties and 2.3 per cent had other types of disabilities.

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Gambia is a small country in West Africa with a total population of 1,857,181 in 2013 of which 49.4 per cent were below the age of 18 years, indicating a high child dependency. The Gambia is one of the least developed countries with a per capita income of US\$318 (2004 constant prices) in 2013¹; Human Development Index (HDI) value of 0.441 for 2013 positioning it 172 out of 187². The per capita income has been estimated at US\$450 at constant 2005 prices³.

Over the last decade, progress in reducing high incidence of death among infants and the under-five children has been made. The infant mortality rate was estimated as 75 per 1,000 births in 2003 and under-five mortality 99 per 1,000; by 2013, infant mortality rate had declined to 35 per 1,000 births and under-five mortality 63 per 1,000 births. The total fertility rate (TFR) has generally been declining over time even though it has increased a bit from 5.4 in 2003 to 5.9 per 1,000 women (Census 2013).

Children are highly valued in The Gambia as they are essential part of marriages and a means of security for both parents in old age. Most families live in traditional arrangements in a compound setting, comprising several households. In 2013, average household size was estimated at 8.4 persons with variation across rural and urban areas—average from 11 persons in the rural areas and 7 in the urban areas.

The current low level of mortality especially among infants and under-five mortality and a relatively high fertility rate explains the persistent high growth rate of the children population. The crude death rate (CDR) declined from 11 per 1,000 in 1993 to 9 per 1,000 in 2003 and to 6.6 in 2013. Infant mortality rate (IMR) also declined from 84 to 75 in 1993 to 2003 and further declined to 35 per 1,000 live births in 2013. Under-five mortality, though falling from 76 to 63 per 1,000, remains high. Life expectancy at birth has correspondingly increased to 63.6 years for both sexes between 2003 and 2013.

About 43 per cent of the population were under the age of 15 and 21.4 per cent between 15 and 24 years (2013 Population Census). This youthful age structure means a high potential for rapid growth of the population in the future as well as a high dependency burden on the economy.

The National Disability Survey of 1998 covered about a quarter of the population of The Gambia, finding an overall prevalence rate of disability of 1.6 per cent, with higher prevalence

¹ Gambia Bureau of Statistics. 2013. National Accounts Report

² UNDP 2014. Human Development Report. <https://hdr.undp.org>

³ Gambia Bureau of Statistics. 2013. National Accounts Report

for males and for the rural areas. Among children aged 2-18 the prevalence rate of disability was 0.99 per cent, and the most significant problems enumerated were speech and physical mobility. The majority of these children were reported to have become disabled as a consequence of ‘disease’.

However, the 2013 Population and Housing Census showed that prevalence rate of disability among children was 0.4 per cent implying four in every thousand children had some form of disability. Of these, females constituted 50.3 per cent and males 49.7 per cent. In 2003, the prevalence rate of disability among children in the same age cohort was 1.2 per cent. This shows a decline of 0.8 per cent between 2003 and 2013 censuses.

1.2 Data Source and Limitations

In The Gambia, the principal sources of data on children apart from Population and Housing Censuses are the Multiple Indicator Survey (MICS), Malaria Indicator Survey (MIS) and Demographic and Health Survey (DHS). Censuses are carried out decennially and provide statistics on age, place of birth, education, literacy, disability and mortality, which are important for assessing the wellbeing of children as well as the dependency burden on the working population. They also provide information to gauge the vulnerability of orphaned children.

Despite the useful information provided by censuses, they have some inherent limitations that restrict a comprehensive analysis of some important issues such as quality of education. Further, errors could be introduced during data collection and processing, (coding and data entry) stage that could affect the quality of the analysis. Human induced errors inevitably occur that may affect the accuracy and quality of the results. For the 2013 Population and Housing Census, the following strategies were employed to limit error as far as possible— intensive training of fieldworkers and data processors, adequate field supervision and use of comprehensive data collection, supervision and coding manuals.

1.3 Methodology

For the purpose of the analyses, De facto method is adopted which includes all persons enumerated at the place they spent census night (15th April 2013). By cross-tabulating age, sex and place of birth, it was possible to obtain information on the population of children within the age bracket of 0-17 years, population of children in each Local Government Area and proportion of male and female in the children population. In some cases, comparison with data from similar researches has been made to provide a clear picture of the changes in the status of children in The Gambia. For example, the 1998 Disability Survey findings have been used to examine trends in disability prevalence rate.

CHAPTER 2: POPULATION OF CHILDREN IN THE GAMBIA

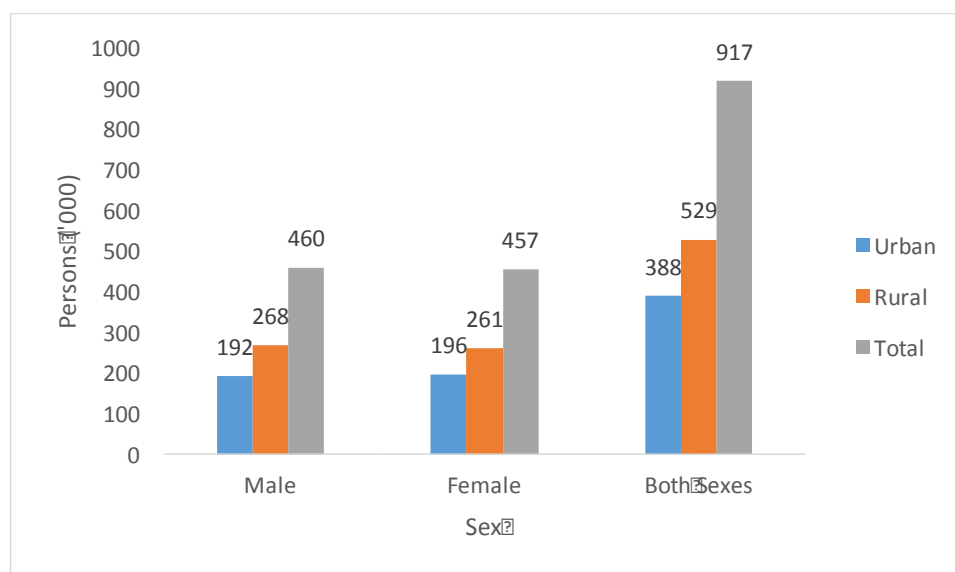
The population of children in The Gambia is growing. According to the 2013 Population and Housing Census, there were 917,034 children at the time of the census, representing 49.4 per cent of the total population of 1,857,181. This shows an increase of 37.2 per cent over the 2003 figure of 668,395 children. Male children were slightly more than females —50.2 per cent and 49.8 per cent respectively. Examining the distribution of the children’s population by age indicates that there were more children in the age group 0-4 and 5-9 and fewer in the age group 15-17 years. Additionally, there were small variations of the distribution across sex with slightly more male children in the age group 0-4 and 5-9 but more females in the age group 15-17 (Table 2.1).

Table 2.1: Distribution of children by age groups and sex

Age Group	Male		Female		Both Sexes	
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent
0-4	147,752	32.1	144,102	31.5	291,854	31.8
5-9	141,334	30.7	138,732	30.4	280,066	30.5
10-14	110,434	24.0	109,711	24.0	220,145	24.0
15-17	60,766	13.2	64,203	14.1	124,969	13.6
Total	460,286	50.2	456,748	49.8	917,034	100.0

Figure 2.1 presents the distribution of the children by place of residence. The data shows that there were more children in urban than rural areas. Comparatively, in 2003, the population of the rural children was 362,091 and the urban 306,304. This shows that the population of children in urban areas has increased from 306,304 to 489,534, whereas those residing in rural areas increased from 362,091 to 427,500. This is mainly explained by re-classification between 2003 and 2013 of some rural areas as urban rather than the result of rural-urban migration only.

Figure 2.1: Population of children by sex and residence in ('000)



2.2 Distribution of children by residence and sex

Percentage distribution of the children population by age group, sex and residence is presented in Table 2.2. Variations are observed in the proportion of female and male children living in urban and rural areas. For example, there were slightly more female children in the age groups 10-14 and 15-17 in the urban areas than males but more males than females in the age groups 0-4 and 5-9.

Table 2.2: Percentage distribution of children by age group, sex and residence

Age Group	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
0-4	32.6	31.1	31.8	31.7	31.9	31.8	32.1	31.5	31.8
5-9	29.4	29.2	29.3	31.6	31.3	31.4	30.7	30.4	30.4
10-14	23.8	24.6	24.2	24.1	23.6	23.9	24.0	24.0	24.0
15-17	14.1	15.2	14.7	12.5	13.2	12.9	13.2	14.1	13.6

Distribution of the children population by LGA and sex is presented in Table 2.3. The distribution of the children population mirrors that of the total population across LGAs. Brikama LGA registered the highest share of proportion of children, accounting for 36.5 per cent of all children, followed by Kanifing, with 17.3 per cent. The lowest proportion of children was observed in Banjul with 1.2 per cent. There were variations across sex with male children forming the majority in all LGAs except for Kanifing, Kuntaur and Janjanbureh LGAs where female children were slightly more than male children.

Table 2.3: Distribution of the children population by LGA and sex

LGA	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Banjul	5,592	5,425	11,017	50.5	49.5	100.0
Kanifing	77,365	80,923	158,288	48.9	51.1	100.0
Brikama	168,122	166,948	335,070	50.2	49.8	100.0
Mansakonko	22,132	21,336	43,468	59.9	41.1	100.0
Kerewan	60,331	58,544	118,875	50.8	49.2	100.0
Kuntaur	26,846	27,196	54,042	49.7	50.3	100.0
Janjanbureh	33,700	33,717	67,417	50.0	50.0	100.0
Basse	66,198	62,659	128,857	51.4	48.6	100.0
Total	460,286	456,748	917,034	50.2	49.8	100.0

CHAPTER 3: EDUCATION AND LITERACY STATUS OF CHILDREN

Education is globally recognized as important for developmental processes of children, their livelihood outcomes and general wellbeing. It is also important for the development of the society as a whole. It is based on these premises that primary education has been recommended and considered a fundamental right for every child as enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The 2013 Population and Housing Census solicited information on educational attainment of all children aged 3-17.

Table 3.1 below shows that 39.3 per cent of the children aged 3-17 years had never attended school, 57.5 per cent were attending school at the time of the census while 3.2 per cent went to school in the past. Within the LGAs, nearly three-quarters of the children in Banjul were attending school, followed by Kanifing. Kuntaur LGA had the lowest proportion of children attending school at the time of the census and for that matter the highest proportion of children who never went to school.

Table 3.1: Percentage distribution of children aged 3-17 years by status of education within LGAs

LGA	Status of education			Total
	Never	Now	Past	
Banjul	23.2	73.4	3.4	8,949
Kanifing	27.9	68.8	3.3	129,698
Brikama	31.6	65.2	3.2	274,343
Mansakonko	36.6	60.2	3.2	36,291
Kerewan	45.0	52.0	3.0	98,240
Kuntaur	65.1	32.3	2.6	44,749
Janjanbureh	54.0	43.1	2.9	55,890
Basse	51.1	45.0	3.8	106,431
Total	39.3	57.5	3.2	754,591

Percentage distribution of status of children's education across LGAs is also presented in Table 3.2. It shows that the majority of those who had never attended school were in Brikama—29.3 per cent followed by Basse. Banjul LGA had the least number of children who never attended school 0.7 per cent. A similar pattern is observed for those who were attending school and those who went to school in the past. The distribution mirrors the LGAs share in the children's population.

Table 3.2: Percentage distribution of children by status of education across LGAs

LGA	Status of Education			Total
	Never	Now	Past	
Banjul	0.7	1.5	1.3	1.2
Kanifing	12.2	20.6	17.6	17.2
Brikama	29.3	41.2	36.1	36.4
Mansakonko	4.5	5.0	4.8	4.8
Kerewan	14.9	11.8	12.0	13.0
Kuntaur	9.8	3.3	4.7	5.9
Janjanbureh	10.2	5.5	6.8	7.4
Basse	18.4	11.0	16.8	14.1
Total	296,213	434,047	24,331	754,591

3.3 School attendance and LGA

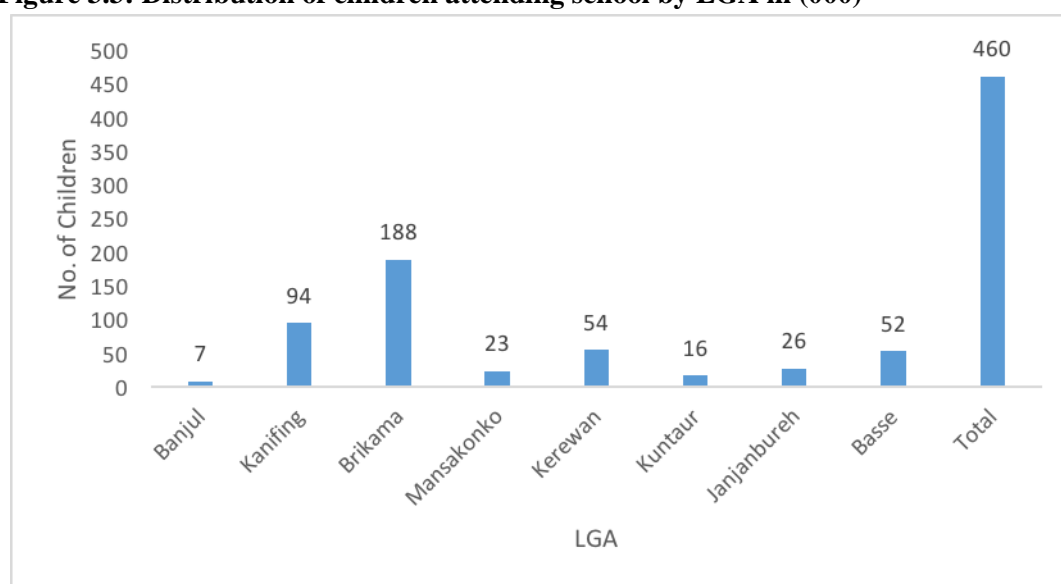
The table below shows that 434,073 children were attending school at the time of the census. Slightly more than one-half (218, 574) 50.4 per cent were females and males (215, 499) 49.6 per cent. This shows that the numerous government interventions and advocacy campaigns to improve and enhance girls' education have yielded positive results. The proportion of females attending school at the time of the census was higher in all the LGAs compared to males except for Kerewan and Basse where the proportion of males were higher—49.3 per cent and 47.6 per cent respectively.

Majority of the children attending school were residing in Brikama LGA (178,768) representing 41.2 per cent of the number of children attending school during the census period, followed by Kanifing (89, 263) 20.6 per cent. The LGA with the lowest proportion of children attending school was Banjul (6,570) 1.5 per cent.

School attendance by place of residence shows that there were more children attending school in the urban areas than in the rural areas with a total number of 259, 471 (59.7 per cent) and 174, 602 (40.3 per cent) respectively. Within the urban areas, the proportion of females attending school was higher—50.8 per cent and their male peers 49.2 per cent. The reverse is true in the rural areas where the proportion of males attending was higher—50.3 per cent compared to 49.7 per cent of their female counterparts. This is partly as a result of the importance attached to male education in the rural settings and other social factors such as early marriage among females (Table 3.3 and Figure 3.3).

Table 3.3: Percentage distribution of children attending school by sex, LGA and residence

LGA	Male	Female	Total
Banjul	49.8	50.2	6,570
Kanifing	48.0	52.0	89,263
Brikama	5.0	50.0	178,768
Mansakonko	49.8	50.2	21,861
Kerewan	50.7	49.3	51,124
Kuntaur	45.5	54.5	14,464
Janjanbureh	47.5	52.5	24,078
Basse	52.4	47.6	47,945
Residence			
Urban	49.2	50.8	259,471
Rural	50.3	49.7	174,602
Total	215,499	218,574	434,073

Figure 3.3: Distribution of children attending school by LGA in (000)

3.3.1: Educational attainment of children aged 3-17 years attending school by LGA

As shown in Table 3.3.1 below, majority of the 434, 073 attending school—62.2 per cent were in primary school. Those in lower secondary education accounted for 18.5 per cent. 15.0 per cent of the children were attending early childhood education and 4.0 per cent in upper secondary schools. It is not surprising that the number of children attending vocational or tertiary education was small as the cut-off age for children is 17 years, which is within age for upper secondary level.

In all the LGAs, the bulk of children were in primary schools, followed by lower secondary and

fewer in upper secondary. Basse had the highest proportion of its children attending primary schools—71.7 per cent, followed by Kuntaur with 69.3 per cent and Janjanbureh with 66.9 per cent. Kanifing had the least proportion of its children in primary schools—56 per cent. Banjul and Kanifing had more than one-fifth of their children in lower secondary schools (21.5 per cent and 21.2 per cent respectively), followed by Brikama—19.2 per cent and the least in Basse—13.4 per cent. The proportion of children attending early childhood education was significant in all LGAs with Brikama having 17 per cent. Kanifing followed this with 16.5 per cent and the least in Kuntaur—11.4 per cent.

Table 3.3.1: Percentage Distribution of children aged 3-17 years currently attending school by educational attainment by LGA

LGA	Early childhood	Primary	Lower secondary	Upper secondary	Vocational	Tertiary	Count
Banjul	12.9	57.9	21.5	7.7	0.0	0.0	6,570
Kanifing	16.5	56.0	21.3	6.1	0.1	0.1	89,263
Brikama	17.0	59.9	19.3	3.8	0.0	0.0	178,768
Mansakonko	13.6	66.6	17.0	2.7	0.0	0.0	21,861
Kerewan	13.2	66.5	17.2	3.2	0.0	0.0	51,124
Kuntaur	11.4	69.3	16.3	3.1	0.0	0.0	14,464
Janjanbureh	11.6	66.9	17.4	4.1	0.0	0.0	24,078
Basse	12.9	71.7	13.4	2.0	0.0	0.0	47,945
Total	15.3	62.2	18.5	4.0	0.0	0.0	434,073

3.4 Literacy status of children

Literacy is a very important social indicator that is critical for assessing the level of awareness of a country's population. It is also a yardstick for assessing the socio-economic development of one's society. It is in recognition of this that 2013 Population and Housing Census asked questions on literacy status of all children aged 7–17 years. While English language is the medium of instruction in most of the schools, a significant number of the population of The Gambia are literate in the Arabic script.

There were 502,578 children aged 7-17 years during the census, of which 63.2 per cent were literate, 12.5 per cent could read only and 24.3 per cent could neither read nor write. The proportion of the male children who were literate was slightly higher than females 63.9 per cent and 62.5 per cent respectively. Literacy rate was higher among children aged 15-17 years—75.9 per cent. Furthermore, the urban areas recorded higher literacy rates than rural areas representing 71.1 per cent and 54.0 per cent respectively.

At LGA level, literacy rate was highest among children in Banjul—82.1 per cent followed by Kanifing LGA with 76.6 per cent while Kuntaur had only 40.5 per cent who could read and write. Janjanbureh and Basse LGAs also had less than half of the children aged 7-17 being able to read and write (Table 3.4).

Table 3.4: Distribution of children by literacy status, sex and age group

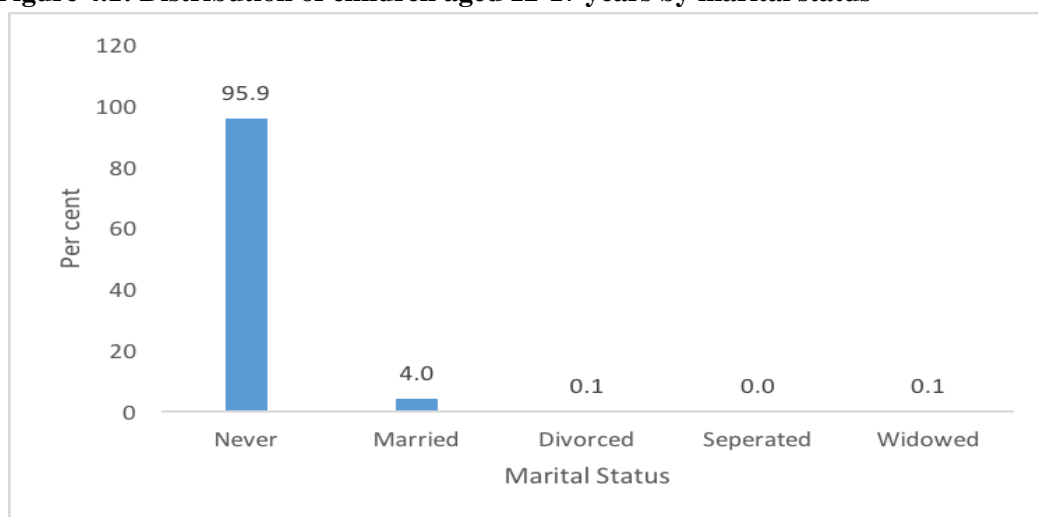
	Count				Per cent			
	Read and write	Read Only	Neither Read Nor Write	Total	Read and write	Read Only	Neither Read Nor Write	Total
Age group								
7-9	67,453	32,874	57,273	157,600	42.8	20.9	36.3	100.0
10-14	155,267	23,301	41,477	220,045	70.6	10.6	18.8	100.0
15-17	94,876	6,554	23,503	124,933	75.9	5.2	18.8	100.0
Sex								
Male	160,131	31,614	58,754	250,499	63.9	12.6	23.5	100.0
Female	157,465	31,115	63,499	252,079	62.5	12.3	25.2	100.0
Residence								
Urban	192,733	27,703	50,820	271,256	71.1	10.2	18.7	100.0
Rural	124,863	35,027	71,432	231,322	54	15.1	30.9	100.0
LGA								
Banjul	5,133	306	813	6,252	82.1	4.9	13.0	100.0
Kanifing	67,795	7,144	13,578	88,517	76.6	8.1	15.3	100.0
Brikama	128,141	20,142	35,801	184,084	69.6	10.9	19.4	100.0
Mansakonko	16,256	3,094	5,058	24,408	66.6	12.7	20.7	100.0
Kerewan	39,098	9,010	16,516	64,624	60.5	13.9	25.6	100.0
Kuntaur	11,606	4,985	12,093	28,684	40.5	17.4	42.2	100.0
Janjanbureh	17,523	6,291	13,039	36,853	47.5	17.1	35.4	100.0
Basse	32,044	11,758	25,354	69,156	46.3	17.0	36.7	100.0
Total	317,596	62,730	122,253	502,578	63.2	12.5	24.3	100.0

CHAPTER 4: CHILDREN AND MARRIAGE

Marriage is almost universal in The Gambia and begins early especially for females. Child marriage is a long established custom in most traditional societies where being a wife and a mother is valued. In some cases, parents would withdraw their girls from schools for marriage to ease the welfare burden on them.

Questions on marital status were administered for all children aged 12-17 years (250,353), those that were married constituted 4.0 per cent and the never married 95.9 per cent. Divorce, separation or widowhood among children that were ever married was negligible (Figure 4.1).

Figure 4.1: Distribution of children aged 12-17 years by marital status



4.2 Percentage distribution of children by sex and marital status

Percentage distribution of children by sex and marital status shows that only 1.0 per cent of the male children, aged 12-17 were ever married and 98.9 per cent never married. A higher proportion of the male children who were married were in Janjanbureh and Kuntaur LGAs. For the female children, 6.8 per cent were married and 93.0 per cent never married. Majority of those married were residents of Kuntaur and Basse LGAs, followed by Janjanbureh (Table 4.2).

Table 4.2: Percentage distribution of children by marital status, sex and LGA

LGA	Male					Female				
	Never	Married	Divorced	Separated	Widowed	Never	Married	Divorced	Separated	Widowed
Banjul	98.6	1.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	95.9	3.9	0.1	0.0	0.1
Kanifing	99.1	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.1	96.1	3.8	0.1	0.0	0.1
Brikama	99.2	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	95.9	4.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Mansakonko	99.1	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	91.2	8.3	0.3	0.1	0.1
Kerewan	99.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	91.9	7.9	0.1	0.1	0.0
Kuntaur	98.3	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	86.6	13.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
Janjanbureh	98.3	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	87.6	12.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Basse	98.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	87.4	12.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	98.9	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	93.0	6.8	0.1	0.0	0.1

4.3 Percentage distribution of children aged 12-17 years by marital status and LGA

Table 4.3 shows that the proportion of married children was highest in Kuntaur, Janjanbureh and Basse—8.0 per cent, 7.0 per cent and 7.0 per cent respectively. A similar trend was observed for both sexes. Kanifing and Brikama had the lowest proportions of ever-married children each with 2.0 per cent.

The data further shows that the proportion of never married children was highest in Kanifing and Brikama — 97.5 per cent each, followed by Banjul 97.2 per cent, Kerewan 95.4 per cent, Mansakonko 95.1 per cent, Basse 92.9 per cent, Janjanbureh 92.7 per cent and Kuntaur 92.2 per cent.

Table 4.3: Percentage Distribution of children aged 12-17 years marital status by LGA

LGA	Never	Married	Divorced	Separated	Widowed	Total
Banjul	97.2	3.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	3,284
Kanifing	97.5	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	47,039
Brikama	97.5	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	92,521
Mansakonko	95.1	5.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	11,847
Kerewan	95.4	5.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	31,156
Kuntaur	92.2	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	13,201
Janjanbureh	92.7	7.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	17,410
Basse	92.9	7.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	33,895
Total	95.9	4.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	250,353

CHAPTER 5: ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN

5.1 Economically active and inactive children

Table 5.1 shows the percentage distribution of the economically active and inactive children aged 7-17 years by age groups, sex and status in employment. Information was collected from 502,827 children. About 14 per cent were economically active, of which nearly 93.0 per cent were employed and the rest unemployed. 86.4 per cent of the children were economically inactive, out of these, 359,294 or 82.7 per cent were students and 4.0 per cent were homemakers. A higher proportion of male children were employed than females, and in rural areas than urban areas.

Analysing the data by LGA, the highest proportion of the employed economically active children were in Kuntaur and the least in Banjul. Students formed the majority of the inactive across all LGAs.

Table 5.1: Percentage distribution of children by age group, activity status, sex, residence and LGA

	Economically Active			Economically Inactive				
	Employed	Unemployed	Total	No Job, Not available	Home Making	Students	Other	Total
	Per cent	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Count
Age group								
7-9	91.0	9.0	13,773	18.1	2.8	78.5	0.6	143,940
10-14	93.0	7.0	26,983	10.1	3.0	86.5	0.5	193,162
15-17	92.0	8.0	27,421	11.7	6.5	81.3	0.5	97,548
Sex								
Male	94.0	6.0	38,678	13.5	1.7	84.2	0.6	211,941
Female	90.0	10.0	29,499	12.7	5.7	81.2	0.4	222,709
Residence								
Urban	84.0	16.0	15,981	12.4	2.9	84.3	0.4	255,430
Rural	95.0	5.0	52,196	14.1	4.9	80.4	0.6	179,220
LGA								
Banjul	76.0	24.0	389	7.1	1.3	91.0	0.6	5,888
Kanifing	77.0	23.0	3,507	10.5	2.6	86.6	0.3	85,038
Brikama	81.1	18.9	8,540	13.2	2.6	83.7	0.5	175,660
Mansakonko	95.8	4.2	3,098	10.8	3.7	84.8	0.7	21,322
Kerewan	96.7	3.3	13,360	11.5	4.1	84.0	0.4	51,290
Kuntaur	97.8	2.2	10,481	18.1	14.9	66.7	0.2	18,211
Janjanbureh	89.1	10.9	9,828	15.7	7.2	75.8	1.3	27,038
Basse	96.3	3.7	18,974	17.3	3.6	78.6	0.6	50,203
Total	92.5	7.5	68,177	12.8	4.0	82.7	0.5	434,650

5.2 Economically active children by industry, age group and sex

A total of 68,177 children were economically active, a majority of which were in the age group 15-17 (25,321). They were distributed across various industries. About eight in every ten of the children were engaged in Agriculture, Hunting, Fishing and Forestry industry (78.3 per cent), Manufacturing and Processing industry (7.2 per cent), Wholesale and Retail Trade/Hotel and Restaurant (4.2 per cent); and Community, Social, and Personal Services industry (3.8 per cent). Less than 2.0 per cent were in General Construction (1.3 per cent) and Transport, Communication and Storage (1.4 per cent) industries. Less than 1.0 per cent were engaged in other industrial activities.

Analysing the data from a gender perspective shows that about three quarters (73.1 per cent) of the working male children were engaged in the Agriculture, Hunting, Fishing and Forestry industry, Manufacturing and Processing (11.2 per cent), Wholesale/Retail and Restaurant/Hotel (3.8 per cent) and Community, Social, and Personnel Service (2.3 per cent) and Transport, Communication and Storage (2.2 per cent). A similar pattern was observed for female children with at least eight in every ten women (85.5 per cent) also engaged in Agriculture, Hunting, Fishing and Forestry. The data further shows that majority of both males and female workers were in the age bracket of 15-17 years—31.2 per cent and 38.8 per cent respectively (Table 5.2).

Table 5.2: Percentage distribution of economically active children by industry, age group and sex

Industry	Male					Female					Both sexes				
	7-8	9-11	12-14	15-17	Total	7-8	9-11	12-14	15-17	Total	7-8	9-11	12-14	15-17	Total
Agriculture, Hunting, Fishing & Forestry	17.7	24.2	26.8	31.2	26,652	15.4	19.8	25.9	38.9	22,755	16.6	22.2	26.4	34.8	49,407
Mining and Quarrying	4.3	13.0	30.4	52.2	23	23.5	11.8	17.6	47.1	17	12.5	12.5	25.0	50.0	40
Manufacturing & Processing	1.9	8.7	24.9	64.6	4,097	5.8	8.2	24.5	61.5	462	2.3	8.6	24.9	64.2	4,559
Electricity, Gas and Water	1.9	9.6	28.8	59.6	52	12.5	37.5	12.5	37.5	8	3.3	13.3	26.7	56.7	60
General Construction	2.0	8.0	19.8	70.3	814	4.2	4.2	29.2	62.5	24	2.0	7.9	20.0	70.0	838
Wholesale, Retail, Restaurant & Hotel services	4.1	8.4	20.6	66.9	1,397	3.8	8.1	21.1	66.9	1,273	4.0	8.3	20.9	66.9	2,670
Transport, Communication & Storage	1.0	4.9	18.5	75.6	816	0.0	15.4	17.9	66.7	39	0.9	5.4	18.5	75.2	855
Finance and Insurance	0.0	0.0	37.5	62.5	8	16.7	0.0	0.0	83.3	6	7.1	0.0	21.4	71.4	14
Community, Social and Personal services	10.1	14.6	20.4	54.8	828	8.4	9.4	18.3	63.9	1,544	9.0	11.2	19.0	60.8	2,372
Not Stated	20.3	28.3	24.0	27.4	1,794	21.7	16.8	21.1	40.5	494	20.6	25.8	23.4	30.2	2,288
Total	14.6	21.0	25.8	38.6	36,481	14.3	18.3	25.1	42.2	26,622	14.5	19.9	25.5	40.1	63,103

5.3 Economically active children by sex and status in employment

For the employed children, more than half of them were employed as unpaid family workers (53.4 per cent), self-employed (37.4 per cent), employed for pay (5.9 per cent) and about 2 per cent were engaged in other types of employment categories not specified such as apprentice /volunteers. Unpaid family workers were common in the rural areas where children assist in family farms or gardens.

In the rural areas, about eight in every ten (78.6 per cent) of the children were employed compared to about 21.4 per cent of the children employed in the urban areas. About half of the children employed in the rural areas were unpaid family workers (47.3 per cent), 28.7 per cent were self-employed and about 2 per cent paid employees. In the urban areas however, about 6.1 per cent were employed as unpaid family workers, 8.7 per cent were self-employed and 4.5 per cent paid employees.

Analysis of the data by sex shows that more males 57.8 per cent were employed compared to their female counterparts of 42.2 per cent. For the males employed, unpaid family workers constituted (31.5 per cent), self-employed—19.6 per cent and paid employees—4.2per cent. Among the employed females, unpaid family workers constituted 21.9 per cent, self-employed—17.7 per cent) and paid employees 1.7 per cent (Table 5.3 and Figure 5.3).

Figure 5.3: Distribution of Children aged 7-17 years status in employment

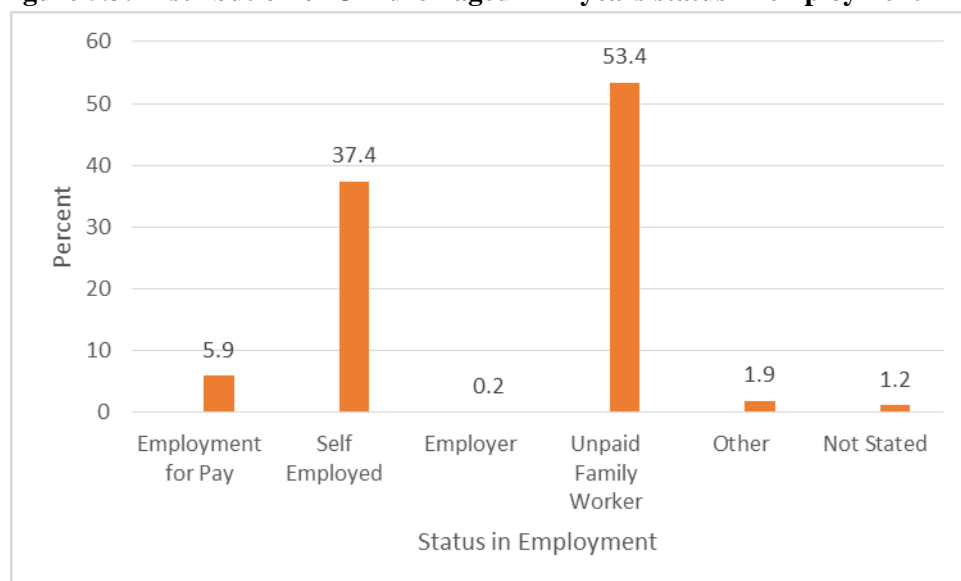


Table 5.3: Percentage distribution of status of employment by residence and sex

Status of employment	Urban	Rural	Total	Male	Female	Both sexes
Employment for Pay	4.5	1.5	5.9	4.2	1.7	5.9
Self Employed	8.7	28.7	37.4	19.6	17.7	37.4
Employer	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Unpaid Family Worker	6.1	47.3	53.4	31.5	21.9	53.4
Other	1.4	0.5	1.9	1.8	0.2	1.9
Not Stated	0.5	0.7	1.2	0.6	0.6	1.2
Total	21.4	78.6	100.0	57.8	42.2	100.0

5.4 Economically active distribution of children by occupation, sex and age group

Children between the ages of 15–17 years accounted for 40.1 per cent of those employed in the industrial sector, followed by those in the age bracket of 10-14 years accounting for 39.9 per cent and those in the age cohort of 7-9 years 20.1 per cent. Majority of the female children employed were engaged in agriculture 85.9 per cent and males 76.5 per cent. Many of these children were unpaid family workers in the rural areas.

The finding shows that 80.5 per cent of the employed children were engaged in agricultural work, a quarter of which were between the ages of 15-17 years. Children employed as 'Elementary Occupations and Labourers' constituted 2.7 per cent, 'Craft and related Trade works' 9.4 per cent, 'Service and Sales Workers' 5.5 per cent and 'Plant/Machines Operators and Assemblers' 0.9 per cent.

The data further shows that male children constituted the highest proportion of children employed with 57.8 per cent and female (42.2 per cent). A significant proportion of the male children were employed in the agricultural sector (76.5 per cent), followed craft and related workers (14.6 per cent), service shop and market sales workers (3.9 per cent), elementary occupation (2.6 per cent) and. In addition, a significant proportion of females (eight out of every ten) were engaged in agricultural work (85.5 per cent) and services, shop and market sales workers (7.8 per cent). Majority of both male and female workers were in the age cohort of 15–17 years with 38.6 and 42.2 per cent respectively (Table 5.4).

Table 5.4: Percentage distribution of economically active children by occupation, sex and age group

Occupation	Male				Female				Both sexes			
	7-9	10-14	15-17	Total	7-9	10-14	15-17	Total	7-9	10-14	15-17	Total
Professionals	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0
Technicians and Associate professionals	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.1	0.1
Clerical support workers	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Services, Shop and Market sale workers	0.3	1.1	2.5	3.9	0.5	2.0	5.3	7.8	0.4	1.5	3.7	5.5
Agriculture Workers	18.9	34.0	23.6	76.5	17.8	34.5	33.5	85.9	18.5	34.2	27.8	80.5
Craft and Related Trade Worker	0.5	4.6	9.5	14.6	0.2	0.6	1.3	2.1	0.4	2.9	6.1	9.4
Plant/Machine Operators and Assemblers	0.0	0.3	1.2	1.5	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.9
Elementary occupations	0.4	0.8	1.5	2.6	0.6	0.8	1.5	3.0	0.5	0.8	1.5	2.7
Not stated	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.7
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	20.4	41.0	38.6	100.0	19.4	38.4	42.2	100.0	20.0	39.9	40.1	100

5.5 Children employed by sex, age group, residence and LGA

Table 5.5 shows the proportion of children employed by residence and age group. The findings show that more male children were employed in the urban area (62.2 per cent) compared to the females of (37.8 per cent). A similar trend was observed in the rural areas where more males were employed (54.4 per cent) and females (45.6 per cent).

The analysis further shows that most of the employed children were in the upper age cohort of 15-17 years. 63.0 per cent of the children working in Kanifing were in the age bracket of 15 – 17 years. This was followed by those in Banjul with 60.5 per cent. The least proportion of employed children within the same age group of 15-17 years was in Kuntaur and Janjanbureh with 29.5 per cent and 33.4 per cent respectively.

Table 5.5: Percentage distribution of employed children by sex, age group, residence and LGA

	Age Group					Total
	7-8	9-10	11-12	13-14	15-17	
Urban	8.0	7.4	8.8	15.9	59.8	100.0
Male	4.2	4.3	5.5	10.2	37.9	62.2
Female	3.8	3.1	3.3	5.7	21.9	37.8
Residence						
Rural	16.6	16.1	14.5	16.6	36.3	100.0
Male	9.3	9.5	8.4	8.9	18.3	54.4
Female	7.2	6.6	6.1	7.7	17.9	45.6
LGA						
Banjul	5.9	5.9	9.7	17.9	60.5	100.0
Kanifing	8.8	6.3	6.9	15.1	62.9	100.0
Brikama	7.8	8.4	9.3	15.6	58.9	100.0
Mansakonko	12.1	12.2	12.4	17.1	46.2	100.0
Kerewan	16.5	15.4	14.2	16.5	37.4	100.0
Kuntaur	19.7	19.3	15.8	15.8	29.5	100.0
Janjanbureh	19.0	17.4	14.6	15.6	33.4	100.0
Basse	15.1	15.3	15.0	17.9	36.8	100.0

CHAPTER 6: CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Disability is a sensitive issue in most African cultures because of the myths, misconceptions and superstitious beliefs concerning disability, which may lead to exclusion from mainstream society. The Census addressed questions on disability for all household members aged two years and above. Analysis of disability in this report is restricted to children aged 2-17 years. The aim was to assess the prevalence and type of disability among this population.

6.1 Prevalence of disability among children aged 2 -17 years by sex and LGA

Table 6.1 below shows the percentage distribution of children with disabilities by sex and LGA. It shows that there were 2,885 children with disabilities out of 815,682 children aged 2-17 years. This translates into disability prevalence rate of 0.4 per cent or four in every one thousand children. Majority of the children with disabilities were males accounting for 54.2 per cent and females 45.8 per cent.

Brikama had the highest proportion of children with disabilities—36.9 per cent, followed by Kerewan 14.6 per cent and Basse 13.3 per cent. Banjul had the least proportion of children with disabilities—2.5 per cent, followed by Mansakonko and Janjanbureh with 6.6 per cent and 7.0 per cent respectively.

Table 6.1: Distribution of children with disabilities by sex and LGA

LGA	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes
Banjul	51	21	72	3.3	1.6	2.5
Kanifing	159	183	342	10.2	13.9	11.9
Brikama	560	505	1,065	35.8	38.3	36.9
Mansakonko	106	84	190	6.8	6.4	6.6
Kerewan	236	185	421	15.1	14.0	14.6
Kuntaur	111	92	205	7.2	7.0	7.1
Janjanbureh	113	89	206	7.4	6.7	7.1
Basse	224	160	384	14.3	12.1	13.3
Total	1,565	1,319	2,885	100.0	100.0	100.0

Disability prevalence rate among children aged 2-17 years, sex and LGA is presented in Table 6.2. The data shows that prevalence rates range from 0.2 per cent in Kanifing to 0.7 per cent in Banjul. Analysing the prevalence rates from a gender perspective shows that prevalence rates are slightly higher among males than females—0.4 per cent and 0.3 per cent respectively. At the LGA level, disability prevalence rates are higher among males in Banjul, Brikama, Mansakonko, Kuntaur, Janjanbureh and Basse but higher among females in Kanifing and of equal proportions among males and females in Kerewan (Table 6.2).

Table 6.2: Prevalence of disability by LGA

LGA	Male	Female	Prevalence rate
Banjul	1.0	0.4	0.7
Kanifing	0.2	0.3	0.2
Brikama	0.4	0.3	0.4
Mansakonko	0.5	0.4	0.5
Kerewan	0.4	0.4	0.4
Kuntaur	0.5	0.4	0.4
Janjanbureh	0.4	0.3	0.3
Basse	0.4	0.3	0.4
Per cent	0.4	0.3	0.4
Count	1,565	1,320	2,885

6.3 Percentage distribution of disability by type, sex and residence

Hearing difficulty was the most prevalent type of disability among children accounting for more than one-quarter (28.2 per cent) of children. Followed by those with physical disability—23.7 per cent, seeing 16.6 per cent, speaking 12.9 per cent and ‘strange behavior’ 8.0 per cent, 5.3 per cent had seizures or ‘fits’ while 2.7 per cent had other type of disabilities. Only 2.6 per cent of the children had learning difficulties. It is important to note that learning difficulty could often be detected through a test administered by a professional. Thus, the proportion of children with learning difficulties could be an undercount.

In the urban areas, male children with disabilities constituted (50.2 per cent) and females (49.8 per cent). Majority of the children with disabilities in the urban areas had hearing difficulties (32.2 per cent), followed by those with physical disability (20.2 per cent), seeing (17.1 per cent) and speaking (11.4 per cent).

Over half of the children with disabilities in the rural areas (56.5 per cent) were males and 43.5 per cent were females. The pattern in the rural areas was similar to that of the urban, where those with hearing difficulties accounted for the highest (25.9 per cent), followed by physical disability (25.7 per cent), seeing difficulty (16.3 per cent) and speaking difficulty (13.7 per cent). (Figure 6.3 and Table 6.3).

Figure 6.3: Percentage distribution of children aged 2-17 years by type of disability

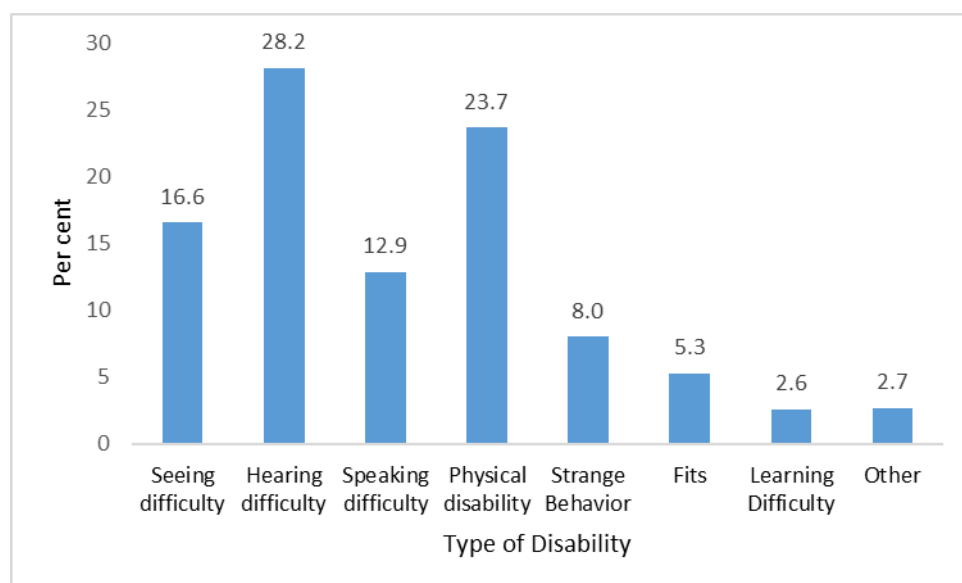


Table 6.3: Percentage distribution of children aged 2–17 years by type of disability, sex and residence

Type of Disability	Urban			Rural			Total
	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	
Seeing	18.1	16.1	17.1	16.3	16.3	16.3	16.6
Hearing	30.7	33.8	32.2	26.7	24.9	25.9	28.2
Speaking	13.3	9.4	11.4	15.0	12.2	13.7	12.9
Physical	19.6	20.7	20.2	25.1	26.4	25.7	23.7
Strange Behavior	6.9	10.0	8.4	7.2	8.4	7.7	8.0
Fits	5.7	4.4	5.1	4.0	7.4	5.5	5.3
Learning Difficulty	3.2	3.1	3.2	2.9	1.5	2.3	2.6
Other	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

6.4 Percentage distribution of children with disability by type and LGA

The percentage distribution of disabilities among children was highest in Brikama 37.0 per cent, followed by Kerewan (14.6 per cent), Basse (13.3 per cent), Kanifing (11.9 per cent), Kuntaur 7.1 per cent, Janjanbureh 7.0 per cent and Mansakonko 6.6 per cent. Banjul had the lowest proportion of children with disabilities (2.5 per cent).

The data further shows that hearing difficulties was the most common type of disability among children with disabilities and was highest in Brikama with 37.2 per cent, Kanifing (15.0 per cent), Basse (12.9 per cent) and Kerewan (12.6 per cent).

The second most common type of disability among children was Physical disability of which Brikama had the largest proportion 35.2 per cent, followed by Kerewan (16.0 per cent) and Basse (15.2 per cent). Brikama LGA had the most of all the different types of disability with seeing accounting for 41.8 per cent, hearing 37.2 per cent, speaking 38.3 per cent, physical 35.2 per cent, 'strange behavior' 30.9 per cent, Fits 30.1 per cent, Learning difficulties 37.3 per cent and other of types disabilities 46.2 per cent (Table 6.4).

Table 6.4: Percentage distribution by type of disability and LGA

LGA	Type of Disability								Total
	Seeing	Hearing	Speaking	Physical	Strange Behaviour	Fits	Learning Difficulties	Other	
Banjul	2.1	4.7	1.3	1.3	1.7	2.0	2.7	1.3	2.5
Kanifing	11.3	15.0	10.8	9.1	13.9	8.5	14.7	10.3	11.9
Brikama	41.8	37.2	38.3	35.2	30.9	30.1	37.3	46.2	37.0
Mansakonko	6.1	5.3	7.5	7.8	6.5	8.5	9.3	2.6	6.6
Kerewan	14.4	12.6	16.2	16.0	18.3	14.4	12.0	10.3	14.6
Kuntaur	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.2	6.5	3.3	14.7	11.5	7.1
Janjanbureh	6.5	4.9	5.1	9.2	7.8	15.7	6.7	2.6	7.0
Basse	10.5	12.9	13.7	15.2	14.3	17.6	2.7	15.4	13.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

CHAPTER 7: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The rapid growth of children population in The Gambia during the inter-censal period of 2003 and 2013 is a real cause for concern as it certainly generates high dependency burden on the economy, which directly affect savings and capital formations for sustained economic growth. The increase in the proportion of children and young people in the population of The Gambia calls for providing appropriate interventions to minimize the threat of social disorder such as illegal migration and other anti-social behaviors. Access to sexual and reproductive health services, education in particular skills training; and employment are important for social inclusion.

Basic primary education is a fundamental right for all children as conventionally agreed by United Nations. In The Gambia, tremendous efforts and improvements have been registered in the overall enrolment of children in primary schools even though there remain a significant number who never attained primary education. Primary school education is at no cost to the Gambian children, but to attain net primary school enrolment rate of 100.0 per cent as stipulated in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), more has to be done including rigorous awareness programs on the importance of education especially for the girl child.

Persons with disabilities must be provided with adequate care and be protected against all forms of discrimination and inequity. Even though the rate of disability has declined from 11 to 4 per 1,000 people between 2003 and 2013, issues around disabilities are of great concern to government. To design appropriate policy measures that would reflect the needs of persons with disabilities, a comprehensive national survey on disability should be carried out to provide the country with up-to-date statistics and information on the dynamics of disability. The only available and comprehensive nationwide disability report was carried out in 1998.

The End-Decade Assessment Report (Dec. 2000) had shown significant progress in ensuring the rights and welfare of children in The Gambia, especially in the field of child health and education. However, it was evident from the report that more challenges remain including high infant and maternal mortality rates, gender disparities in education, persistent poverty, exclusions and discrimination, and generally inadequate investment in services for children.

ANNEXES:

ANNEX A: Distribution of children by residence, age group, sex and LGA

Table A.1: Distribution of children by sex and residence

Residence			Both
	Male	Female	Sexes
Urban	243,209	246,325	489,534
Rural	217,077	210,423	427,500
Total	460,286	456,748	917,034

Table A.2: Distribution of children by age group, sex and residence

Age group	Urban			Rural			Total		Both Sexes
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	
0-4	79,070	76,875	155,945	68,682	67,227	135,909	147,752	144,102	291,854
5-9	71,567	72,356	143,923	69,767	66,376	136,143	141,334	138,732	280,066
10-14	58,305	60,259	118,564	52,129	49,452	101,581	110,434	109,711	220,145
15-17	34,267	36,835	71,102	26,499	27,368	53,867	60,766	64,203	124,969
Total	243,209	246,325	489,534	217,077	210,423	427,500	460,286	456,748	917,034

Table A.3: Distribution of the children population by sex, and LGA

LGA	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Banjul	5,592	5,425	11,017	1.2	1.2	1.2
Kanifing	77,365	80,923	158,288	16.8	17.7	17.3
Brikama	168,122	166,948	335,070	36.5	36.6	36.5
Mansakonko	22,132	21,336	43,468	4.8	4.7	4.7
Kerewan	60,331	58,544	118,875	13.1	12.8	13.0
Kuntaur	26,846	27,196	54,042	5.8	6.0	5.9
Janjanbureh	33,700	33,717	67,417	7.3	7.4	7.4
Basse	66,198	62,659	128,857	14.4	13.7	14.1
Total	460,286	456,748	917,034	100.0	100.0	100.0

ANNEX B: Distribution of children (3- 17 years) by education attendance and LGA

Table B.1: Distribution of children (3- 17 years) by education attendance and LGA

LGA	Never	Now	Past	Total
Banjul	2,072	6,570	307	8,949
Kanifing	36,152	89,263	4,283	129,698
Brikama	86,813	178,743	8,787	274,343
Mansakonko	13,274	21,861	1,156	36,291
Kerewan	44,190	51,124	2,926	98,240
Kuntaur	29,139	14,463	1,147	44,749
Janjanbureh	30,165	24,078	1,647	55,890
Basse	54,408	47,945	4,078	106,431
Total	296,213	434,047	24,331	754,591

ANNEX C: Distribution of children attending school by Sex and LGA

Table C.1: Distribution of children currently attending school by Sex and LGA

LGA	Early childhood	Primary	Lower secondary	Upper secondary	Vocational	Tertiary	Count
Banjul	12.9	57.9	21.5	7.7	0.0	0.0	6,570
Kanifing	16.5	56.0	21.3	6.1	0.1	0.1	89,263
Brikama	17.0	59.9	19.3	3.8	0.0	0.0	178,768
Mansakonko	13.6	66.6	17.0	2.7	0.0	0.0	21,861
Kerewan	13.2	66.5	17.2	3.2	0.0	0.0	51,124
Kuntaur	11.4	69.3	16.3	3.1	0.0	0.0	14,464
Janjanbureh	11.6	67.0	17.4	4.1	0.0	0.0	24,078
Basse	12.9	71.7	13.4	2.0	0.0	0.0	47,945
Total	15.3	62.2	18.5	4.0	0.0	0.0	434,073

ANNEX D: Distribution of children (12-17 years) by marital status and LGA

Table D.1: Distribution of children (12-17 years) by marital status and LGA

LGA	Never	Married	Divorced	Separated	Widowed	Total
Banjul	3,192	86	1	2	3	3,284
Kanifing	45,856	1,119	18	8	38	47,039
Brikama	90,217	2,188	38	21	57	92,521
Mansakonko	11,267	548	17	6	9	11,847
Kerewan	29,709	1,395	23	19	10	31,156
Kuntaur	12,170	1,014	6	3	8	13,201
Janjanbureh	16,135	1,242	15	12	6	17,410
Basse	31,495	2,341	18	17	24	33,895
Total	240,041	9,933	136	88	155	250,353

ANNEX E: Distribution of children by activity status, age group, sex, residence and LGA

Table E.1: Distribution of children by activity status, age group, sex, residence and LGA

Age group	Economically Active			No Job, Not available for	Economically Inactive			Total
	Employed	Unemployed	Total		Home Making	Students	Other activity	
7-9	12,533	1,240	13,773	26,053	4,030	112,993	864	143,940
10-14	25,094	1,889	26,983	19,509	5,795	167,085	966	193,162
15-17	25,227	2,194	27,421	11,413	6,341	79,307	488	97,548
Sex								
Male	36,357	2,321	38,678	28,612	3,603	178,454	1,272	211,941
Female	26,549	2,950	29,499	28,284	12,694	180,840	891	222,709
Residence								
Urban	13,424	2,557	15,981	31,673	7,407	215,327	1,022	255,430
Rural	49,586	2,610	52,196	25,270	8,782	144,093	1,075	179,220
LGA								
Banjul	296	93	389	418	77	5,358	35	5,888
Kanifing	2,700	807	3,507	8,929	2,211	73,643	255	85,038
Brikama	6,926	1,614	8,540	23,187	4,567	147,027	878	175,660
Mansakonko	2,968	130	3,098	2,303	789	18,081	149	21,322
Kerewan	12,919	441	13,360	5,898	2,103	43,084	205	51,290
Kuntaur	10,250	231	10,481	3,296	2,713	12,147	36	18,211
Janjanbureh	8,757	1,071	9,828	4,245	1,947	20,495	351	27,038
Basse	18,272	702	18,974	8,685	1,807	39,460	301	50,203
Total	63,064	5,113	68,177	55,635	17,386	359,456	2,173	434,650

Table E.2: Distribution of economically active children by industry, age group, occupation and sex

Females											
Age Group	Agriculture, Hunting, Fishing & Forestry	Mining and Quarrying	Manufacturing & Processing	Electricity, Gas & Water	General Construction	Wholesale, Retail & Restaurant services	Transport, communication & Storage	Finance and Insurance	Community, Social & Personal services	Not stated	Total
7-9	6,516	2	141	2	33	77	10	0	118	534	7,433
10-14	11,820	9	1,311	19	209	386	189	3	256	769	14,971
15-17	8,316	12	2,645	31	572	934	617	5	454	491	14,077
Total	26,652	23	4,097	52	814	1,397	816	8	828	1,794	36,481

Males											
Age Group	Agriculture, Hunting, Fishing & Forestry	Mining and Quarrying	Manufacturing and Processing	Electricity, Gas and Water	General Construction	Wholesale, Retail & Restaurant services	Transport, Communication & Storage	Finance and Insurance	Community, Social & Personal services	Not stated	Total
7-9	4,731	5	34	3	1	73	1	1	177	134	5,160
10-14	9,169	4	144	2	8	348	12	0	380	160	10,227
15-17	8,855	8	284	3	15	852	26	5	987	200	11,235
Total	22,755	17	462	8	24	1,273	39	6	1,544	494	26,622

Table E.3: Distribution of economically active children by age group and occupation

	7-9	10-14	15-17	Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	11,247	20,989	17,171	49,407
Mining, Quarrying	7	13	20	40
Manufacturing & Processing	175	1,455	2,929	4,559
Electricity, Gas & Water	5	21	34	60
General Construction	34	217	587	838
Wholesale, Retail & Restaurant services	150	734	1,786	2,670
Transport, Communication & Storage	11	201	643	855
Finance and Insurance	1	3	10	14
Community, Social & Personal services	295	636	1,441	2,372
Not stated	668	929	691	2,288
Total	12,593	25,198	25,312	63,103

Table E.4: Distribution of economically active children by occupation, sex and age group

Occupation	Male				Female				Both sexes			
	7-9	10-14	15-17	Total	7-9	10-14	15-17	Total	7-9	10-14	15-17	Total
Professionals and Managers	0	0	3	3	0	0	3	3	0	0	6	6
Technician and Associate	0	0	59	59	0	0	13	13	0	0	72	72
Clerks	0	1	11	12	0	1	6	7	0	2	17	19
Services, Shop & Market sale workers	102	414	914	1,430	127	528	1,414	2,069	229	942	2,328	3,499
Skilled Agriculture Workers	6,911	12,407	8,601	27,919	4,750	9,194	8,919	22,863	11,661	21,601	17,520	50,782
Craft and Related workers	192	1,671	3,481	5,344	43	173	355	571	235	1,844	3,836	5,915
Plant/ Machines Operators	9	117	428	554	2	15	21	38	11	132	449	592
Elementary/ Labourers	138	278	529	945	154	224	410	788	292	502	939	1,733
Not stated	81	83	41	205	84	92	76	252	165	175	117	457
Others	0	0	10	10	0	0	18	18	0	0	28	28
Total	7,433	14,971	14,077	36,481	5,160	10,227	11,235	26,622	12,593	25,198	25,312	63,103

ANNEX F: Distribution of children by status in employment, residence and sex

Table F.1: Distribution of children by status in employment, residence and sex

	Urban	Rural	Total	Male	Female	Both sexes
Employment for Pay	2,821	919	3,740	2,655	1,085	3,740
Self Employed	5,491	18,085	23,576	12,399	11,177	23,576
Employer	76	30	106	74	32	106
Unpaid Family Worker	3,862	29,825	33,687	19,852	13,835	33,687
Other	898	320	1,218	1,120	98	1,218
Not Stated	329	447	776	381	395	776
Total	13,477	49,626	63,103	36,481	26,622	63,103

ANNEX G: Distribution of employed children by sex, age group, residence and LGA

Table G.1: Distribution of employed children by sex, age group, residence and LGA

Age Group								
Urban								
	7-9	10-14	15-17	Total	7-9	10-14	15-17	Total
Male	324	1,830	3,879	6,033	5.4	30.3	64.3	100.0
Female	195	742	1,794	2,731	7.1	27.2	65.7	100.0
Total	519	2,572	5,673	8,764	5.9	29.3	64.7	100.0
Rural								
Male	7,091	13,114	10,176	30,381	23.3	43.2	33.5	100.0
Female	4,946	9,457	9,411	23,814	20.8	39.7	39.5	100.0
Total	12,037	22,571	19,587	54,195	22.2	41.6	36.1	100.0
LGA								
Banjul	19	89	187	295	6.4	30.2	63.4	100.0
Kanifing	102	702	1,913	2,717	3.8	25.8	70.4	100.0
Brikama	526	2,038	4,362	6,926	7.6	29.4	63.0	100.0
Mansakonko	476	1,124	1,367	2,967	16.0	37.9	46.1	100.0
Kerewan	2,858	5,335	4,728	12,921	22.1	41.3	36.6	100.0
Kuntaur	2,708	4,471	3,004	10,183	26.6	43.9	29.5	100.0
Janjanbureh	2,153	3,579	2,955	8,687	24.8	41.2	34.0	100.0
Basse	3,714	7,805	6,744	18,263	20.3	42.7	36.9	100.0
Total	12,556	25,143	25,260	62,959	19.9	39.9	40.1	100.0

ANNEX H: Distribution of type of disability by LGA

Table H.3: Distribution of type of disability by LGA

LGA	Type of Disability								Total
	Seeing	Hearing	Speaking	Physical	Strange Behavior	Fits	Learning Difficulties	Other	
Banjul	10	38	5	9	4	3	2	1	72
Kanifing	54	122	40	62	32	13	11	8	342
Brikama	200	302	142	240	71	46	28	36	1,065
Mansakonko	29	43	28	53	15	13	7	2	190
Kerewan	69	102	60	109	42	22	9	8	421
Kuntaur	35	60	26	42	15	5	11	9	205
Janjanbureh	31	40	19	63	18	24	5	2	206
Basse	50	105	51	104	33	27	2	12	384
Total	478	812	371	682	230	153	75	78	2,885