REPUBLIC OF        THE GAMBIA

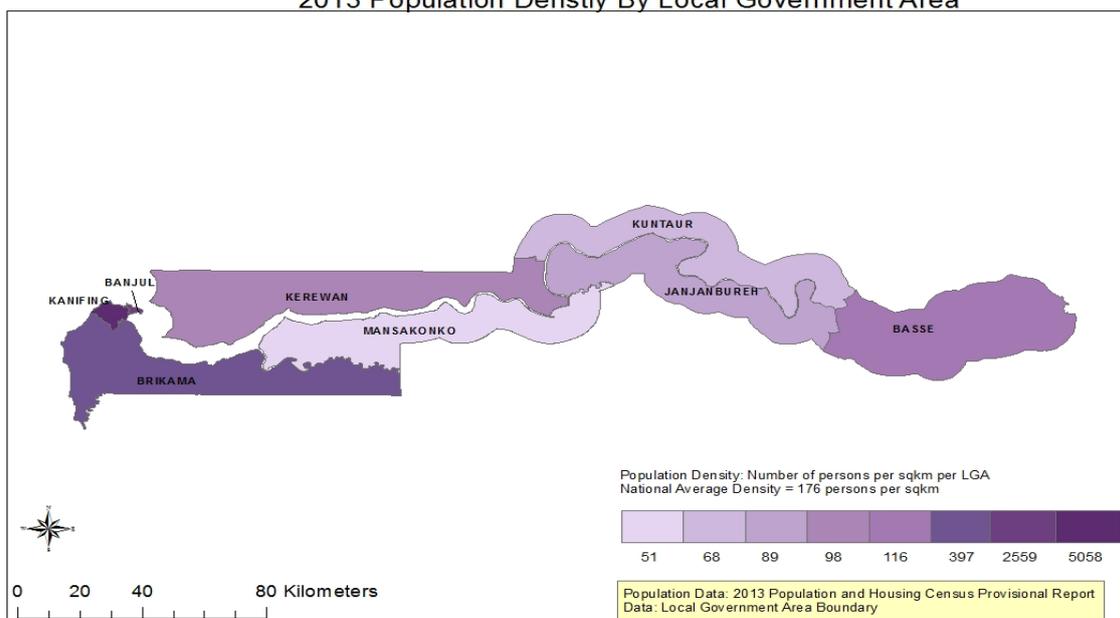# The Gambia 2013 Population and Housing Census Preliminary Results



## 2013 Population Denstiy By Local Government Area



Population Density: Number of persons per sqkm per LGA
National Average Density = 176 persons per sqkm

| 51 | 68 | 89 | 98 | 116 | 397 | 2559 | 5058 |

Population Data: 2013 Population and Housing Census Provisional Report
Data: Local Government Area Boundary

0    20    40         80 Kilometers

## Count!

*Everyone Everywhere in The Gambia*
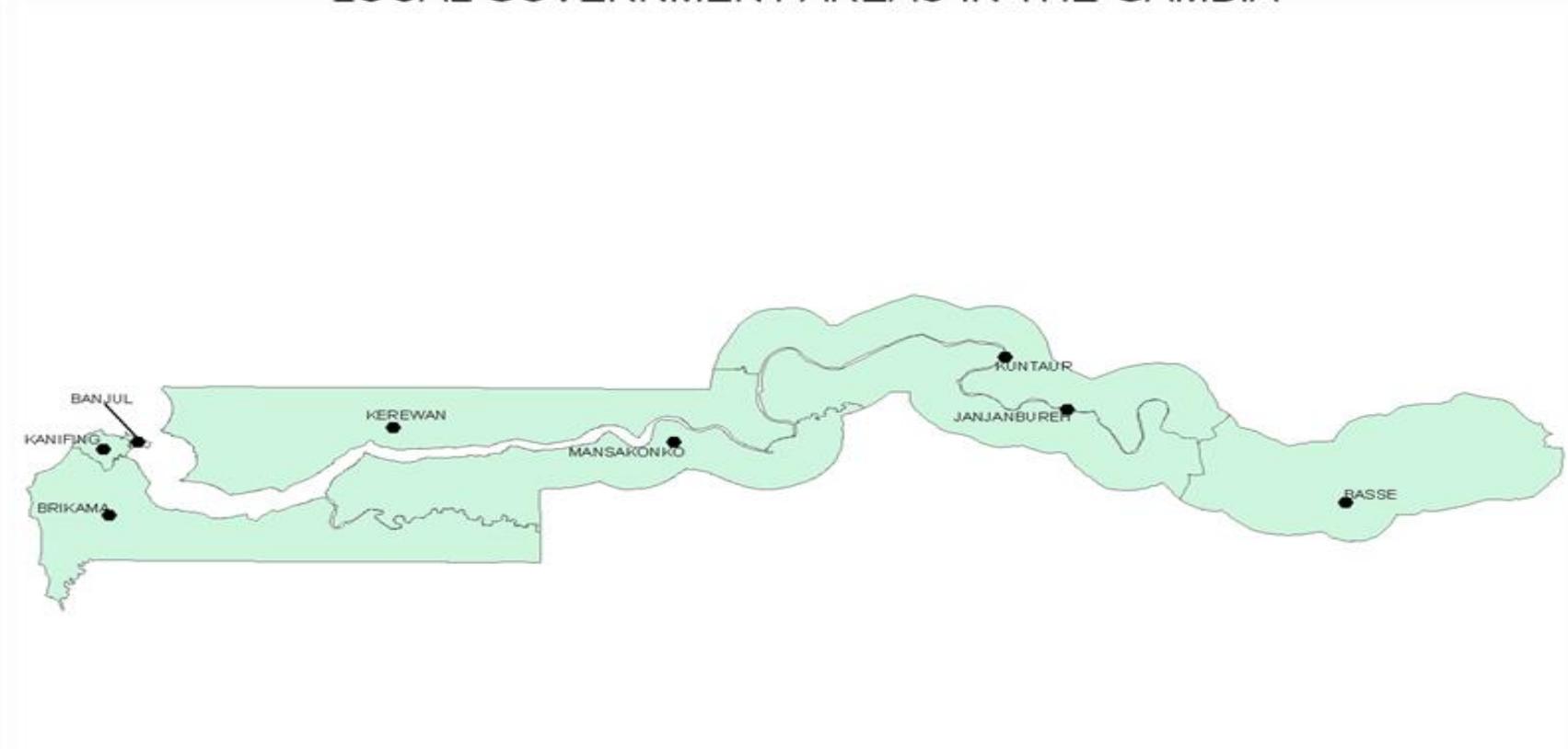*Every House Everywhere in The Gambia*

# The Gambia 2013 Population and Housing Census Preliminary Results



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# ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF THE GAMBIA

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS IN THE GAMBIA

**Legend**

- Main Settlment

Note: For census purpose GBOS adopted the name of the main settlement or local administrative town for each region to represent the LGA

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Content**                                                                                          **Page**

## LIST OF TABLES

## LIST OF FIGURES

## MAP

**Foreword**

The Gambia 2013 Population and Housing Census enumeration was successfully conducted from April 8th to 28th 2013. It started with the housing census which began on April 8 and lasted for 7 days. The population enumeration which was the second phase of the census enumeration began on April 15 and lasted for 14 days. The 2013 Population and Housing Census is yet another testimony of Government's commitment to conducting decennial population and housing censuses. It is worth noting that a complete simultaneous enumeration of the population of the country was first conducted in 1963.

The 2013 census is the sixth complete population and housing census and the fifth taken since independence. This affirms The Gambia's strict adherence to the decennial periodicity or regularity requirement which forms part of international best practices for census-taking.

The 2013 census was conducted under the legal framework of the Statistical Act 2005 which empowers the Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS) to conduct a population census in 2013 and every ten years thereafter.

The Census Preliminary report is the first in series of the reports to be released on the 2013 Population and Housing Census. The report provides preliminary information on population characteristics such as population size, sex composition, density, growth and household size at local government area and district levels. These preliminary counts were compiled manually by extracting population summaries from census questionnaires/forms that were used for the population enumeration. Also provided in this report is a brief description of the census operational activities. This report will be followed by detail basic reports that will give information related to demographic, environmental, communication, agricultural and other socio-economic characteristics of the population and housing units. The data processing, analysis and compilation of reports will take some time and hence the need to release preliminary figures to assist planning and decision making processes.

The provisional population estimates indicate that the population of The Gambia has steadily grown since the commencement of a complete census in 1963, rising from less than one-third million persons in 1963 to 1.4 million persons in 2003 and now 1.9 million persons in 2013.

Figures in this preliminary report should be seen as provisional until the publication of the final figures which may be slightly different after the completion of the census data processing and analysis.

It is however my sincere hope that the data contained in this report will inform our planning and decision making processes in our quest for national development.

Nyakassi M.B. Sanyang
**Statistician General**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The 2013 Population and Housing census like the previous censuses is a national exercise that required huge amount of financial and human resources which were mainly allocated from Government. By virtue of the trained human resource requirements of censuses, the requisite trained human resource was never readily in place for implementation of the 2013 census, hence capacity building was crucial to ensure that staff engaged in the different stages were well equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to carry out the activities as required and produced results that meet international standards.
.
The Bureau wishes to express its gratitude to UNFPA our only development partner that contributed immensely in the preparatory activities of the census such as provision of technical assistance in the planning of the 2013 census, procurement of cartography equipment, vehicles, computers, and support to cartographic work and training of trainers for census count both at both headquarters and regional levels. Their assistance contributed immensely in any successful conduct of this census.

We are also highly indebted to all the security services in the country for providing all the security needed during the census. Their cooperation also made it possible to achieve a complete count. We are also highly grateful to the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education for allowing their staff to serve as trainers at the different levels and also as fieldworkers during the census count. Their facilities in the regions were also made available to the regional census teams at no cost. The same appreciation is extended to the Ministry of Agriculture for allowing their staff to serve as trainers and also as fieldworkers. Our sincere gratitude is extended to the Regional Governors, Mayors, Seyfolu, Alkalolu, the general public and the Census Technical Committee for their immense cooperation and support.

Finally, we are highly appreciative of the support provided by Government of The Gambia towards the census which made it possible to conduct the census on the scheduled dates.

**Permanent Secretary**
**Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs**

**LIST OF ACRONYMS**

| | |
|---|---|
| CSD | Central Statistics Department |
| DCOs | District Census Officers |
| EA | Enumeration Area |
| GBoS | Gambia Bureau of Statistics |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| ICT | Information Communication Technology |
| IT | Information Technology |
| LGA | Local Government Area |
| PES | Post Enumeration Survey |
| TOT | Training of Trainers |
| UN | United Nations |
| UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| URR | Upper River Region |
| US | United States |

# CHAPTER 1:      BACKGROUND

## 1.1     Introduction

Population and housing censuses are usually conducted every ten years to study changes in the population size, socio-economic characteristics of the population as well as the housing stock and conditions over time.  Records show that a census was taken in The Gambia in 1881 and every tenth year thereafter.  However, the 1941 census could not be held due to the Second World War. That Census was deferred to 1944 when only a count of Banjul (then called Bathurst) was taken.  The 1951 census covered only Banjul and Kombo St. Mary whilst the population of the rest of the country was based on estimates made by Travelling Commissioners.  Due to general elections, the 1961 census could not also be held on schedule and was deferred to 1963. The 1963 census was the first simultaneous count of the country's population. Since then, The Gambia has successfully conducted population and housing censuses at intervals of ten years in 1973, 1983, 1993 and 2003.  The 2013 census is the fifth population and housing census taken since independence.

Information presented in this report has been extracted from the abstracts prepared by the enumerators immediately after completion of the 2013 Population and Housing Census count. It covers population characteristics such as population size, sex composition, density and household size at local government area and district levels. Also provided in this report is a brief description of the census operational activities.

## 1.2     Legal and Administrative Backing of the Census

It would be recalled that the preceding four censuses were conducted by the then Central Statistics Department (CSD) under the provisions of the 1972 Statistics Act. A new Statistics Act came in to force in 2005 which paved the way for the transformation of CSD to a semi-autonomous statistical agency known as Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS). By the provisions of the new act, the Statistician General, is empowered to conduct or direct the conduct of Population and Housing censuses at regular intervals. Also provided in the Act, is a confidentiality clause which protects the respondents from disclosure of individual information collected during the census. This clause of the Act ensures that data collected during the census count is strictly used for statistical purposes only.

A technical committee comprising government and non-governmental organizations was constituted to assist in the planning and preparation for the census.  The committee had several meetings to review past census questionnaires and identify new areas that this census needs to collect data on. The outcome of these meetings led to the inclusion of three new modules in the census namely agriculture, maternal mortality and information communication technology (ICT), based on the importance of these issues in current national development discourse.

Under the provisions of the Act, the Statistician General assumes the position of Census Controller who directs the overall census exercise assisted by the Director of Social Statistics as Deputy Census Controller.  For census and other statistical research purposes, the country has been divided into 8 Local Government Areas (LGA) each corresponding to an administrative Region except the Central River Region which has been split into two LGAs namely Kuntaur and Janjanbureh representing the north and south banks of the region respectively.

## 1.3    Census Preparatory Activities

A Population and Housing Census is a large scale statistical inquiry that requires huge financial, human and material resources. The census results form the basis for all development projects/plans for the next ten years as well as constitute the frame for all planned inter-censal surveys. Therefore, to ensure efficiency and effective conduct of the census, preparations usually start few years before the actual count. For the 2013 census, these preparatory activities included:

- Preparation of a Census project document
- Cartography/GIS – mapping activities
- Preparation of census instruments
- Conduct of the pilot census

**Census Project Document**

At the request of the Gambia Government, the UNFPA supported the hire of a five-person consultancy team comprising specialists in population and development, data processing, census mapping/cartography/GIS and advocacy who arrived in the country in May 2010 to prepare a census project document. The exercise lasted three weeks. During their stay, the team discussed with GBoS officials and consulted various stakeholders both in Government and outside to come up with the 2013 Census Project Document. Articulated in this document are activities both for the preparatory and implementation stages of the census count. All activities were budgeted. A census budget of over US $6 million meant to fund activities over five years was prepared. The draft project document was reviewed and later finalised and approved by Government. The document continues to be used as a guide for the implementation of census activities.

**Cartography/GIS  Activities**

The census mapping started in June 2011 with 39 field mapping staff and 12 office staff. The field staff were divided into 6 teams each headed by a supervisor. All the teams were deployed in the Upper River Region where the exercise started. In July 2011, the mapping was formally launched in Basse (URR) by the Governor of the Region and the event coincided with the World Population Day celebration which was also celebrated in that region.

The team based at the office were GIS assistants, data entry clerks and map verifiers. Through UNFPA support, The Gambia made use of GIS technology in census mapping for the first time. The support included hiring the services of Mr. Isaac Mwangangi, a Cartography/GIS consultant. Mr. Mwangangi made several missions to the Gambia between 2011 and 2013 to build capacity at GBoS in the area of cartography/GIS. These missions were very fruitful in that the field mapping exercise was completed on time and all the maps were digitised and printed at district, ward, settlement and enumeration area (EA) levels before the commencement of census count in April 2013.

To further enhance the practical skills transfer to GBoS staff by Mr. Mwangangi, UNFPA hired the services of a GIS expert based at the Earth Institute, Columbia University who conducted two weeks of intensive classroom training in November 2011 on GIS for the GIS Assistants and staff of the IT Directorate of GBoS. The training provided by these census

mapping and GIS experts also included training on the use of the mapping equipment procured with UNFPA funding.

**Preparation of Census Instruments**

GBoS and the Census Technical Committee worked on the 2003 Population and Housing Census instruments. Taking into account past experiences, data needs of the country, UN recommendations, willingness of the people to respond to the questions/issues and the ability of the enumerators to understand the concepts and definitions, three new modules namely maternal mortality, ICT and agriculture were included for the first time whilst improvements were made in some of the traditional modules.

Technical meetings were held to review the topics to be covered as well as the draft questionnaires/forms. The following questionnaires/forms were finally adopted and pre-tested prior to the census count:-

**(i)Form A:** Household Questionnaire. This was the main questionnaire designed to ascertain the number of persons present in households on census night and also collect demographic, social and economic data on every person enumerated. Information about the housing conditions was also included in this form.

**(ii) Form B:** Group Quarters Questionnaire. This questionnaire was used to collect census data pertaining to inmates of institutions like hospitals, hostels, prisons etc, as well as the floating population, which included outdoor sleepers, those at transit points, hotels, guest houses, etc. on census night.

**(iii) Form C:** Building and Compound particulars. This questionnaire was filled for all compounds and buildings in the country. It was completed by enumerators in the first round, to get an inventory of compounds and buildings as well as households residing in them which was a necessary pre-requisite for conducting the population census. Information on construction materials of the walls, roof and floor and use of each building was also collected in this form.

**(iv) Operational and Quality Control Forms (GPCs 1,2,& 6):** Forms GPCI and GPC2 were filled in by enumerators as summaries of the enumerated population at settlement and compound levels respectively within an E.A. Form GPC6 on the other hand, was a quality control instrument completed by the supervisor on each enumerator's work. Other forms distributed were designed to record the flow of census documents and activities of field workers.

**Pilot Census**

In July 2012, UNFPA provided a Technical Assistant for two months to support GBoS in the conduct of the pilot census. The pilot census was co-funded by Government and the UNFPA.

The objective of the pilot census was to test the appropriateness and applicability of the census instruments and census work plan (questionnaires, manuals, maps, data processing software, tabulation plans, recruitment and training plans, the workload and duration of data collection and data processing, etc.).

The pilot census covered a sample of 40 EAs selected all over the country using statistical techniques. In all, 40 enumerators and 8 supervisors were finally selected after the training

and deployed for the exercise. Data collection started on July 30 and lasted for three weeks. During the first week (July 30 – August 5) the housing questionnaire was administered alongside the listing of compounds and households. The population enumeration started at midnight of August 6 for two weeks targeting the floating, institutional and household populations within the sampled EAs.

The following instruments were used during the pilot census data collection and data processing exercises.

- Questionnaires/Schedules
- Enumeration Area (E.A) maps
- Enumerator's/Supervisor's manuals
- Editing/Coding manuals and instructions
- Data entry manuals and instructions

Processing and analysis of the pilot census data started shortly after the data collection and by January 2013, a pilot report was produced and shared at various levels.

## 1.4 Decentralisation of the Census Activities

For effective coordination, monitoring and supervision of the census data collection, the Bureau decided to decentralise implementation of the activities during the enumeration phase as was done in the past by setting up regional census offices across the country. In all, 14 census offices were established each headed by a regional census officer. Each census office was mandated to receive applications and recruit census personnel based on merit for positions of trainers, district census officers, supervisors and enumerators.

**Training**

Training for the census proper was undertaken in three phases. The first phase was held in the GBoS conference hall where staff to be deployed in the regional offices were trained for 10 days on all the census instruments. This training was important for two reasons:

1. it marked the beginning of full participation of GBoS staff in the census
2. it was the foundation on which outcomes of subsequent trainings were based.

The Training of Trainers (TOT) was the second phase of the training of census personnel and lasted for 8 days. Those trained at this level were deployed to the census offices to train the enumerators and supervisors. The TOT was held simultaneously in four different centres namely:

- ❖ Kanifing for Banjul and Kanifing Census Offices
- ❖ Brikama for Census Offices in the West Coast Region
- ❖ Mansakonko for Census Offices in the Lower River and North Bank Regions
- ❖ Basse for Census Offices in the Central River and Upper River Regions

On March 27, the training of enumerators and supervisors began in all the census offices for 10 days. The sessions included classroom lectures, mock interviews among trainees, translation of the questions and concepts into the local languages and field practices. Towards the end of the training, a written assessment was made for all the trainees and a final selection was done based on performance during this test.

**Publicity**

Several channels of communication were used to sensitise the general public on the 2013 Population and Housing Census. Almost all the local newspapers had columns on the census for some weeks. The national radio and television station and some private/community radio stations carried out series of programmes on the census in the form of panel discussions, drama, etc in the months of March and April. As part of efforts to create awareness at the grassroot level, the Regional Census Officers held series of sensitisation meetings with District Authorities during which, census posters were given out to village alkalolu which were meant to be pasted at public gathering places in the villages. Furthermore, a group of traditional communicators was contracted to perform dramas on the census and drama performances were made in more than 20 villages across the country. For the first time in census publicity, T-shirts and caps were printed bearing the census logo and messages. These were freely distributed in the communities and also worn by the field staff during the enumeration exercise.

**Enumeration Exercise**

At the end of the training, enumerators and supervisors were deployed to their respective EAs and supervisory areas on the 6th and 7th of April 2013. District Census Officers (DCOs) ensured that all field workers in their districts were at their bases before the census count started on the 8th April. Mapping Assistants were attached to DCOs to help identify EA boundaries and up-date district maps as and when necessary.  Each DCO was allocated a vehicle to facilitate co-ordination within their districts.

Data collection, which started on 8th April lasted for 21 days.  The first 7 days were used for the compound and household listing as well as administrating the housing questionnaire. Population enumeration, which lasted for 14 days started on 15th April.  This census aimed at a de facto count of all persons who were within the borders of The Gambia by midnight of 15th April (i.e. Census night).  To this end, Regional Census Officers made arrangements for enumeration to start in their regions at midnight of the census night with the objective of counting the floating population by the early hours of the morning. Population enumeration was satisfactorily completed in all the regions within the stipulated 14 days.

**Post Enumeration Activities**

To adhere to international recommendations on the conduct of population and housing censuses, a post enumeration survey (PES) was to be conducted shortly after the main census. The objective of the PES was to determine the extent of content and coverage errors in the census data.

However, due to unavailability of the requisite financial resources, the PES could not be conducted. In its absence, GBoS management decided to maintain the Regional Census Offices for another two months (May, June) after the census enumeration during which, the regional teams were tasked to thoroughly edit and verify the completed questionnaires in other to minimise the content and coverage errors. This exercise went well in all the regions. In some instances, the teams visited some settlements/households to verify certain issues and address cases of under enumeration.
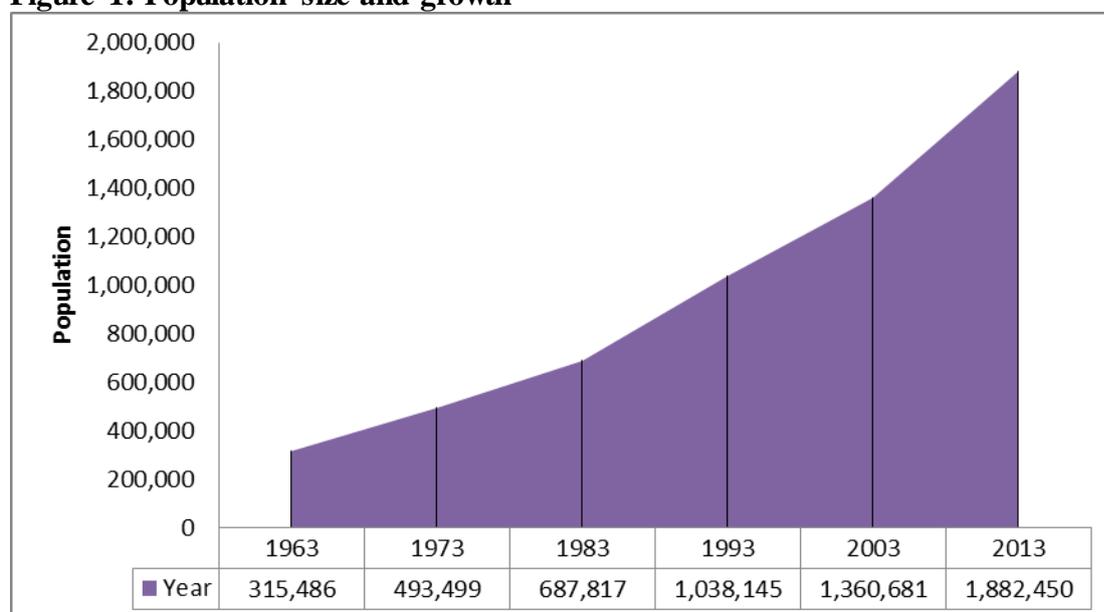
# Chapter 2: Preliminary Results

## 2.1 Population Size

Preliminary results of the 2013 Population and Housing Census show that 1,882,450 persons were enumerated in The Gambia (figure 1). This provisional count shows a 5.6 per cent increase over the projected 2013 population of 1,783,424. This variance can be attributed to a number of factors one of which is a possible improvement in the census coverage of 2013 compared to 2003. The significant drop in the population growth rate from 4.2 per cent during the inter-censal period 1983-1993 to 2.7 per cent over the period 1993-2003 is a possible indication of an under-count of the population in 2003. The provisional population count indicates an absolute increase of 521,769 persons (or 38.3 per cent) compared to the number of persons enumerated in last census (2003 census). Overall, the provisional population indicates that the population of the Gambia has steadily grown since the commencement of a complete census in 1963, rising from less than a third of a million persons in 1963 to 1.4 million persons in 2003 and now 1.9 million persons (2013).

The steady increase in population size for decades has policy implications for all sectors particularly the education, health, housing and agriculture sectors respectively. With the consistent increase in the population there is increasing demand for services and land bot for residential and agricultural use. With an increasingly adverse economic climate at the global level and increasing environmental problems, an increasing population at this rate will continue to pose development challenges.

**Figure 1: Population size and growth**



| Year | 1963 | 1973 | 1983 | 1993 | 2003 | 2013 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Population | 315,486 | 493,499 | 687,817 | 1,038,145 | 1,360,681 | 1,882,450 |

## 2.2 Population Growth

On average, the population of The Gambia has been growing at the rate of 3.3 per cent per annum during the inter-censal period 2003-2013. With this rate of population growth, the population of The Gambia is expected to double in 21 years. Comparing the current rate of

population growth to the observed annual growth rate of 2.7 per cent over the inter-censal period 1993-2003, the population growth rate has significantly increased over the past decade. One would have expected that with interventions geared towards a reduction in fertility, assuming a zero net-migration the population growth rate would have declined. This unexpected trend in the population growth rate can be attributed to improvements in the coverage of the 2013 Census over 2003 and declining mortality rates. As expected, the movement of the population out of Banjul (emigration) has outweighed the contribution of births and in-migration to the population of Banjul leading to a decline in population over the inter-censal period. In contrast, the population in Brikama LGA grew at a rate of 6.1 per cent annually on average. The unprecedented rate of population growth registered for the LGA is attributable to the influx of migrants from other regions of the country and from outside the country.

**Figure 2: Average annual growth rate (%) by Local Government Area**
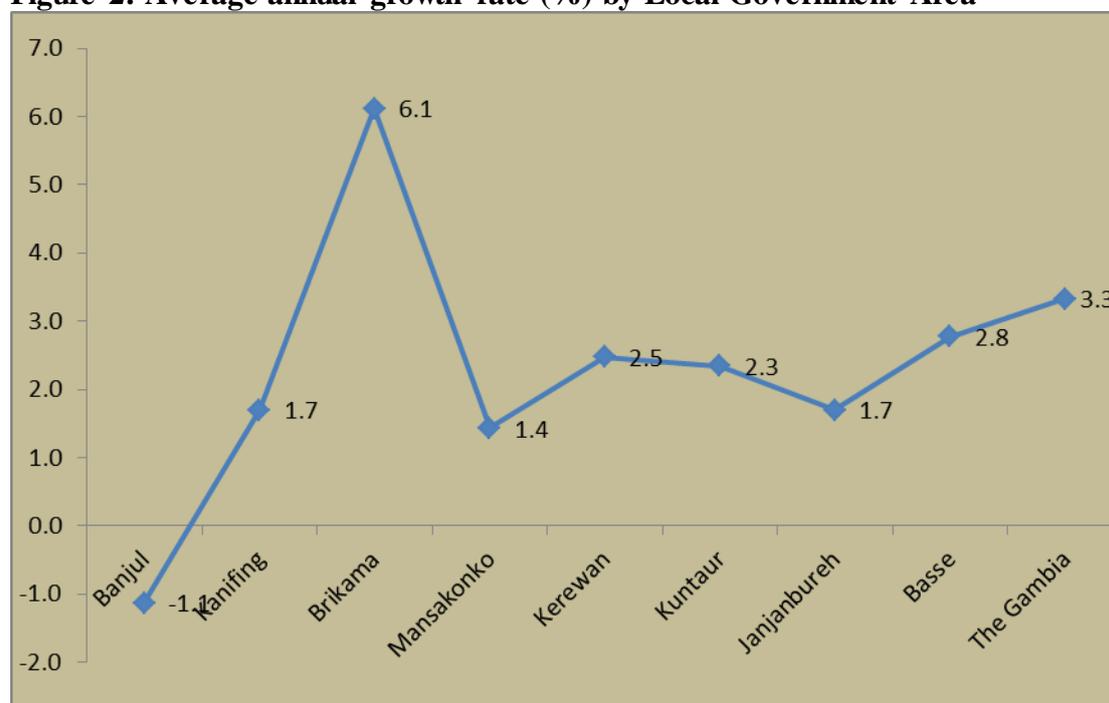


## 2.3 Percentage Change in Population by Local Government Area

Overall, the population of The Gambia has increased by 38.3 per cent during the inter-censal period (2003 - 2013). However, the population of Banjul declined during the period by 10.7 per cent. This can be attributed to the relocation of most of the compounds in Half-die to West Coast Region for the expansion of the Banjul port facilities. In addition, the renovation of the police barracks in Banjul led to a temporary relocation of personnel of the Police Force outside the city. The largest increase in population was recorded in Brikama. This is largely due to the migration of many people from within the country and without to the districts of Kombo North, Kombo South and Kombo Central over the past decade. Kombo North attracted most of the growth largely due to the new housing schemes established in the district over the past decade and the movement of migrants to the region. The other LGAs where the population increased significantly overtime are Basse (31.4 per cent) followed by Kerewan and Kuntaur each increasing by 27.9 per cent and 26.3 per cent respectively.

**Figure 3: Percentage Change in Population by Local Government Area**
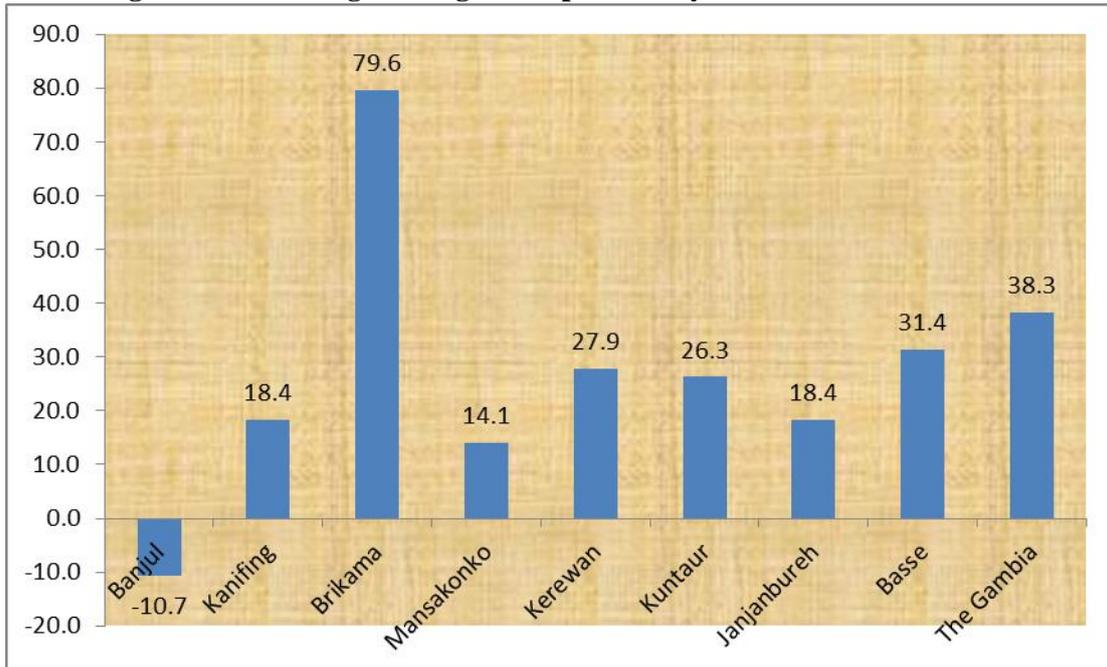


## 2.4 Distribution of the 2013 Population by Sex by Local Government Area

Overall, provisional results of the 2013 population census revealed that there are more females than males in the country. According to the results, 50.5 per cent of the population counted are females compared to 49.5 per cent males. The findings further revealed that LGAs that are predominantly urban tend to have more males than females whiles those that are predominantly rural have more females than males. This can be attributed to the movement of males from rural to urban areas and even from outside the country in search of better paid jobs.

**Figure 4: population distribution by Sex by LGA**



| | Banjul | Kanifing | Brikama | Mansakonko | Kerewan | Kuntaur | Janjanbureh | Basse | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| % Male | 54.2 | 50.3 | 50.2 | 48.2 | 48.2 | 47.7 | 48.1 | 47.9 | 49.5 |
| % Female | 45.8 | 49.7 | 49.8 | 51.8 | 51.8 | 52.3 | 51.9 | 52.1 | 50.5 |
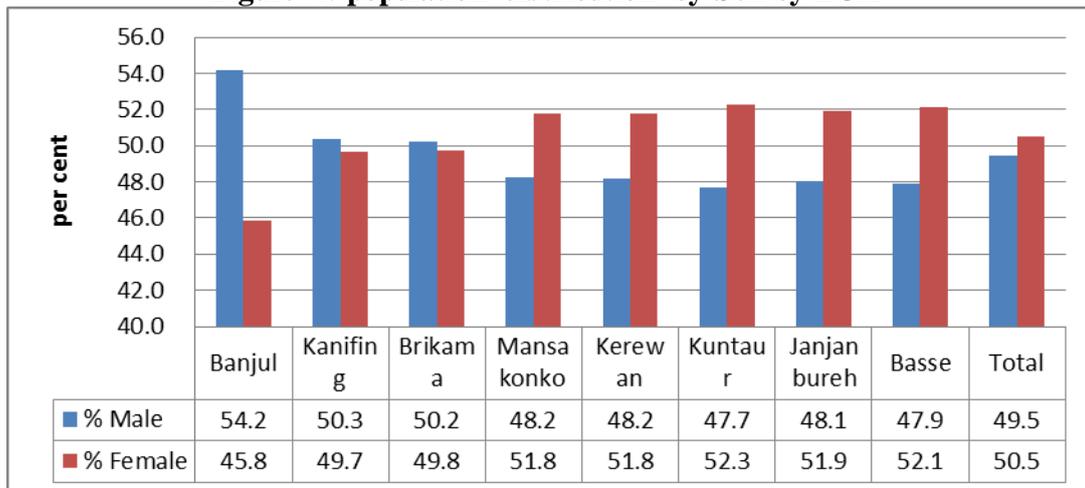
Sex ratio refers to the number of males per 100 females in a population. As was observed above, the trend as depicted in the table below shows a larger female population when compared to males. The table below shows that overall; there are 98 males for every 100

females in The Gambia. It can be further seen in the table that the male population exceeds that of females in Banjul, Kanifng and Brikama LGAs and in the rest of the LGAs the female population are predominant.

**Table 1: Sex Ratio across LGA**

| LGA | Total Population | Male | Female | Sex Ratio |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Banjul | 31,301 | 16,954 | 14,347 | 118 |
| Kanifing | 382,096 | 192,417 | 189,679 | 101 |
| Brikama | 699,704 | 351,482 | 348,222 | 101 |
| Mansakonko | 82,361 | 40,721 | 41,640 | 93 |
| Kerewan | 221,054 | 104,931 | 116,123 | 93 |
| Kuntaur | 99,108 | 47,233 | 51,875 | 91 |
| Janjanbureh | 126,910 | 61,001 | 65,909 | 93 |
| Basse | 239,916 | 115,960 | 123,956 | 92 |
| **Total** | **1,882,450** | **930,699** | **951,751** | **98** |

### 2.5 Population Density

The 2013 population census figures show a rise in population density from 127 persons per square kilometre in 2003 to 176 persons per square kilometre in 2013. According to the Wikipedia, the 2012 population estimates ranked The Gambia as the 73rd most densely populated country in the world and the 10th in Africa. With the drop in population in the capital city Banjul, the population density also dropped from 2867 persons per square kilometre to 2,559 persons per square kilometre. However, this is still regarded as very high. As expected, population density rose in all other regions but more significantly in Brikama LGA. The results also show that population is more concentrated in predominantly urban regions. This is also shown in the map below.

**Map 1: Population Density of The Gambia by LGA**



2013 Population Denstiy By Local Government Area
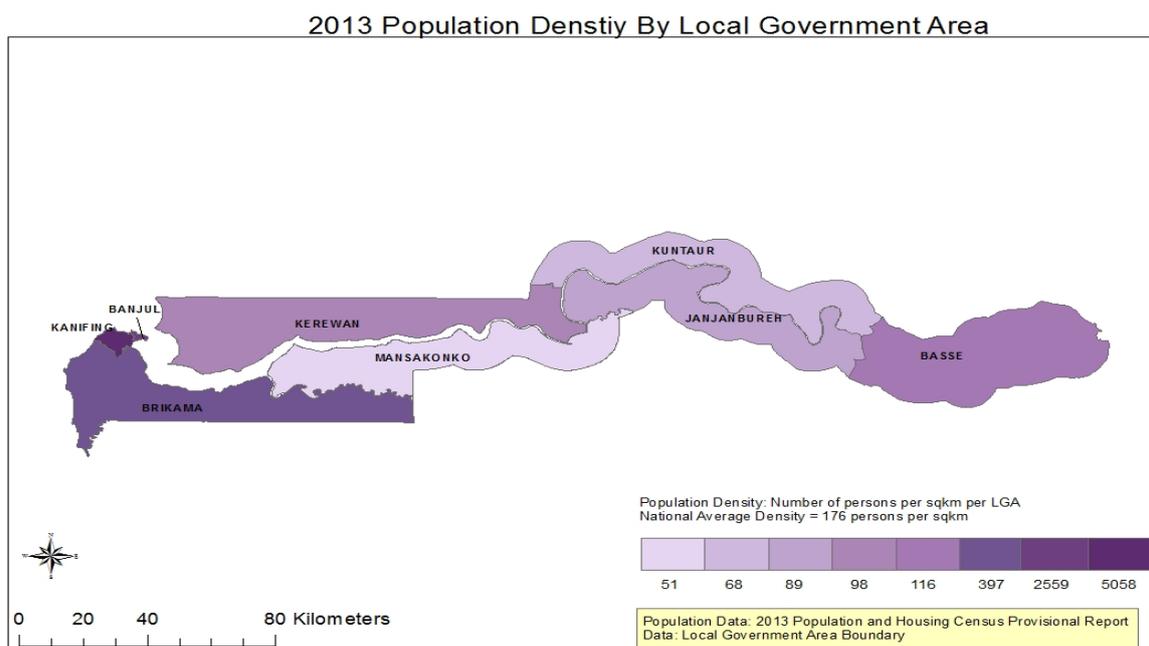
Since population density is a direct outcome of internal population redistribution as dictated by various "push and pull" factors, in the absence of changes in these factors in the foreseeable future the density is expected to continue to increase. This has policy implications for authorities both at the central and local government levels. Over the years agricultural land has been dwindling with increasing pressure on land due to an increasing population. On the other hand land for housing is becoming increasingly scarce in urban areas which led to an unprecedented appreciation in the value of urban land and the settlement of people in areas unfit for human settlement due to the swampy nature of the terrain.

**Table 2: Population Density in 2003 and 2013 by Local Government Area**

| LGA | Population | | Area (Sq. KM) | Density | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2003 | 2013 | | 2003 | 2013 |
| Banjul | 35,061 | 31,301 | 12.23 | 2,866.8 | 2,559.4 |
| Kanifing | 322,735 | 382,096 | 75.55 | 4,271.8 | 5,057.5 |
| Brikama | 389,594 | 699,704 | 1,764.25 | 220.8 | 396.6 |
| Mansakonko | 72,167 | 82,361 | 1,618.00 | 44.6 | 50.9 |
| Kerewan | 172,835 | 221,054 | 2,255.50 | 76.6 | 98.0 |
| Kuntaur | 78,491 | 99,108 | 1,466.50 | 53.5 | 67.6 |
| Janjanbureh | 107,212 | 126,910 | 1,427.75 | 75.1 | 88.9 |
| Basse | 182,586 | 239,916 | 2,069.50 | 88.2 | 115.9 |
| **Total** | **1,360,681** | **1,882,450** | **10,689.28** | **127.3** | **176.1** |

### 2.6 Households and Average Household Sizes

Overall, the number of households as counted in 2013 Population and Housing Census increased from 157,494 in 2003 census to 229,500, an increase of 45.7 per cent. Except in Banjul where the number of households declined, the increase in household numbers occurred in all LGAs. The highest increase occurred in Brikama LGA where the number of households almost doubled (94.7%) between 2003 and 2013. The increment in the number of households was also large in Kanifing, Kuntaur and Basse LGAs with percentage increases of 36.9 per cent, 31.2 per cent and 26.9 per cent respectively. With the exception of Banjul the lowest rate of increase was registered in Mansakonko (5.8 per cent).

The preliminary 2013 census figures indicate an average household size of 8.2 persons at the national level. This shows a downward trend from 8.3 persons in 1973 to a peak of 8.9 persons in 1993 and then a decline back to 8.6 in 2003 and further to 8.2 persons in 2013. The average household size declined in half of the LGAs but increased in the other half of the LGAs. The decline in average household size took place in predominantly urban LGAs of Banjul, Kanifing and Brikama and in Kuntaur, a predominantly rural LGA. An increase in average household size was recorded in Mansakonko, Kerewan, Janjanbureh and Basse LGAs.

The continued existence of large households in The Gambia is testimony of the fact that many people continue to live in traditional household settings in which members of different generations of households live. This kind of living arrangements continue to predominate in rural settings as is evident in larger rural household sizes. Seemingly declining urban households is evidence that people are beginning to change their living arrangements from the traditional extended family living arrangements to a more nuclear setting. Another factor which may be contributing to the apparent decline in average household sizes in urban areas is the effect of in-migration. Since most migrants to the urban area are single and have a tendency to live alone, the increase in migrants in urban areas is likely to influence urban household sizes. Although for now empirical evidence to that effect may be limited, other factors likely to have influenced the reduction in average household size is a reduction in fertility and also the practice of polygamy, particularly in urban areas.

**Table 3: Households and Average household size (2003 and 2013) by LGA**

| LGA | Population | | No. of Households | | Average Household Size | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **2003** | **2013** | **2003** | **2013** | **2003** | **2013** |
| Banjul | 35,061 | 31,301 | 6,853 | 6,657 | 5.1 | 4.7 |
| Kanifing | 322,735 | 382,096 | 49,016 | 67,119 | 6.6 | 5.7 |
| Brikama | 389,594 | 699,704 | 45,139 | 87,864 | 8.6 | 8.0 |
| Mansakonko | 72,167 | 82,361 | 8,432 | 8,919 | 8.6 | 9.2 |
| Kerewan | 172,835 | 221,054 | 18,242 | 22,407 | 9.5 | 9.9 |
| Kuntaur | 78,491 | 99,108 | 7,104 | 9,321 | 11.0 | 10.6 |
| Janjanbureh | 107,212 | 126,910 | 10,115 | 11,238 | 10.6 | 11.3 |
| Basse | 182,586 | 239,916 | 12,593 | 15,975 | 14.5 | 15.0 |
| **Total** | **1,360,681** | **1,882,450** | **157,494** | **229,500** | **8.6** | **8.2** |

### 2.7 Percentage share of total population by Local Government Area

According to the provisional results of the census, all LGAs' percentage share of the total population in 2013 when compared to 2003 declined except for Brikama LGA. In Brikama whereas the LGA accounted for 28.6 per cent of the total population in 2003 their percentage share of the population increased to 37.2 per cent. As indicated earlier the rapid increase in the population of Brikama can be explained by the migration of both Gambians and non-Gambians into the LGA over the past decade.

**Table 4: Population distribution by LGA**

| LGA | Population | | Percentage share of Total Population | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **2003** | **2013** | 2003 | 2013 |
| Banjul | 35,061 | 31,301 | 2.6 | 1.7 |
| Kanifing | 322,735 | 382,096 | 23.7 | 20.3 |
| Brikama | 389,594 | 699,704 | 28.6 | 37.2 |
| Mansakonko | 72,167 | 82,361 | 5.3 | 4.4 |
| Kerewan | 172,835 | 221,054 | 12.7 | 11.7 |
| Kuntaur | 78,491 | 99,108 | 5.8 | 5.3 |
| Janjanbureh | 107,212 | 126,910 | 7.9 | 6.7 |
| Basse | 182,586 | 239,916 | 13.4 | 12.7 |
| **Total** | **1,360,681** | **1,882,450** | 100.0 | 100.0 |

### CONCLUSION

A preliminary assessment of the provisional results of the 2013 Population and Housing Census is indicative of satisfactory coverage during the census enumeration. The provisional population count compares favourably with the 2013 projected population of 1,783,424 and the census mapping population estimate of 1,959,536 for 2013. Overall this census can so far be rated as a resounding success. The probable improvement in coverage can be attributed, partly, to the immense improvement in the census maps.

# ANNEXES

**A1. Population by LGA, District and Sex**

| LGA | DISTRICT | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **BANJUL** | | **16,954** | **14,347** | **31,301** |
| | BANJUL SOUTH | 4,400 | 3,870 | 8,270 |
| | BANJUL CENTRAL | 6,135 | 5,562 | 11,697 |
| | BANJUL NORTH | 6,419 | 4,915 | 11,334 |
| **KANIFING** | | **192,417** | **189,679** | **382,096** |
| | KANIFING | 192,417 | 189,679 | 382,096 |
| **BRIKAMA** | | **351,482** | **348,222** | **699,704** |
| | KOMBO NORTH | 173,252 | 171,504 | 344,756 |
| | KOMBO SOUTH | 54,991 | 53,782 | 108,773 |
| | KOMBO CENTRAL | 71,434 | 71,397 | 142,831 |
| | KOMBO EAST | 21,589 | 21,366 | 42,955 |
| | FONI BONDALI | 3,983 | 3,758 | 7,741 |
| | FONI BREFET | 7,074 | 7,340 | 14,414 |
| | FONI KANSALA | 7,001 | 7,237 | 14,238 |
| | FONI BINTANG KARANAI | 8,445 | 8,541 | 16,986 |
| | FONI JARROL | 3,713 | 3,297 | 7,010 |
| **MANSAKONKO** | | **40,721** | **41,640** | **82,361** |
| | KIANG CENTRAL | 3,952 | 4,414 | 8,366 |
| | KIANG EAST | 3,162 | 3,687 | 6,849 |
| | KIANG WEST | 7,217 | 7,736 | 14,953 |
| | JARRA CENTRAL | 5,166 | 3,271 | 8,437 |
| | JARRA EAST | 8,310 | 8,241 | 16,551 |
| | JARRA WEST | 12,914 | 14,291 | 27,205 |
| **KEREWAN** | | **104,931** | **116,123** | **221,054** |
| | LOWER NIUMI | 28,168 | 29,190 | 57,358 |
| | UPPER NIUMI | 15,464 | 16,016 | 31,480 |
| | JOKADU | 10,486 | 11,646 | 22,132 |
| | CENTRAL BADIBU | 9,841 | 10,263 | 20,104 |
| | ILLIASA | 20,987 | 20,616 | 41,603 |
| | LOWER BADIBU | 8,388 | 9,642 | 18,030 |
| | SABACH SANJAL | 11,597 | 18,750 | 30,347 |
| **KUNTAUR** | | **47,233** | **51,875** | **99,108** |
| | LOWER SALOUM | 7,046 | 8,835 | 15,881 |
| | UPPER SALOUM | 8,837 | 10,308 | 19,145 |
| | NIANIJA | 5,118 | 5,057 | 10,175 |
| | NIANI | 14,346 | 15,132 | 29,478 |
| | SAMI | 11,886 | 12,543 | 24,429 |
| **JANJANGBUREH** | | **61,001** | **65,909** | **126,910** |
| | JANJANGBUREH | 2,029 | 1,959 | 3,988 |
| | FULLADU WEST | 41,002 | 43,959 | 84,961 |
| | NIAMINA EAST | 11,628 | 12,943 | 24,571 |
| | NIAMINA WEST | 3,536 | 3,757 | 7,293 |
| | NIAMINA DANKUNKU | 2,806 | 3,291 | 6,097 |

| BASSE | | | 115,960 | 123,956 | 239,916 |
|-------|---|---|---------|---------|---------|
| | KANTORA | | 18,154 | 20,630 | 38,784 |
| | TUMANA | | 17,998 | 19,563 | 37,561 |
| | BASSE FULADU EAST | | 24,695 | 25,295 | 49,990 |
| | JIMARA | | 20,948 | 22,512 | 43,460 |
| | WULI WEST | | 11,663 | 10,883 | 22,546 |
| | WULI EAST | | 11,130 | 12,561 | 23,691 |
| | SANDU | | 11,372 | 12,512 | 23,884 |
| **T O T A L** | | | **930,699** | **951,751** | **1,882,450** |

**Table A2. Distribution of the Population by LGA and percentage change over the inter-censal period**

| LGA | 2003 | 2013 | Percentage Change |
|-----|------|------|-------------------|
| Banjul | 35,061 | 31,301 | -10.72 |
| Kanifing | 322,735 | 382,096 | 18.39 |
| Brikama | 389,594 | 699,704 | 79.60 |
| Mansakonko | 72,167 | 82,361 | 14.13 |
| Kerewan | 172,835 | 221,054 | 27.90 |
| Kuntaur | 78,491 | 99,108 | 26.27 |
| Janjanbureh | 107,212 | 126,910 | 18.37 |
| Basse | 182,586 | 239,916 | 31.40 |
| **Total** | **1,360,681** | **1,882,450** | **38.35** |

**Table A3. Distribution of the Population by LGA and Growth Rates over the inter-censal period**

| LGA | 2003 | 2013 | Average Annual Growth Rate |
|-----|------|------|----------------------------|
| Banjul | 35,061 | 31,301 | -1.13 |
| Kanifing | 322,735 | 382,096 | 1.70 |
| Brikama | 389,594 | 699,704 | 6.12 |
| Mansakonko | 72,167 | 82,361 | 1.43 |
| Kerewan | 172,835 | 221,054 | 2.47 |
| Kuntaur | 78,491 | 99,108 | 2.34 |
| Janjanbureh | 107,212 | 126,910 | 1.70 |
| Basse | 182,586 | 239,916 | 2.77 |
| **Total** | **1,360,681** | **1,882,450** | **3.33** |

**A4. Distribution of the 2013 Population by LGA and sex**

| LGA | Male | Female | % M | % F |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Banjul | 16,954 | 14,347 | 54.2 | 45.8 |
| Kanifing | 192,417 | 189,679 | 50.3 | 49.7 |
| Brikama | 351,482 | 348,222 | 50.2 | 49.8 |
| Mansakonko | 40,721 | 41,640 | 48.2 | 51.8 |
| Kerewan | 104,931 | 116,123 | 48.2 | 51.8 |
| Kuntaur | 47,233 | 51,875 | 47.7 | 52.3 |
| Janjanbureh | 61,001 | 65,909 | 48.1 | 51.9 |
| Basse | 115,960 | 123,956 | 47.9 | 52.1 |
| **Total** | **930,699** | **951,751** | **49.5** | **50.5** |