

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2002 Census was conducted with reference to the night of 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> September (Census Night). The enumeration covered all persons resident in Uganda on the Census Night. Special arrangements were made to enumerate institutional, homeless, hotel and mobile populations. The census collected data on the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population; household and housing conditions, agriculture; activities of micro and small enterprises; and the community characteristics. There was evidence of deliberate falsification of data from Kotido District. Therefore the analysis in this report excludes data for Kotido district.

The population of Uganda was 24.2 million persons, of which 51 percent were females. The average annual population growth rate of 3.2 percent for the period 1991-2002 was higher than the growth rate of 2.5 for the earlier inter-censal period 1980-1991. The high growth rate was due to high fertility levels and declining mortality. The level of urbanization remained low, with only 12.3 percent of the population residing in the urban areas.

International migration does not have a significant impact on the size of the population. There were only 333 thousand immigrants (persons born outside Uganda), and of these, 100,000 were recent immigrants, constituting less than one percent of the total population in 2002. More than 90 percent of the recent immigrants were from the 6 neighbouring countries. The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was origin to more than one-third of the recent immigrants in 2002 followed by Sudan with 20 percent.

About 3.1 million persons born in Uganda were enumerated outside their district of birth and hence classified as internal migrants. About 43 percent of the internal migrants were recent migrants (moved within 5 years prior to the census).

### **Population Composition**

The majority of the population was enumerated in households. The Census covered a total of 5 million households of which 23 percent were headed by females. The single-person households constituted 13 percent of all households while households with 10 or more persons constituted six percent of the total number of households. The average household size in Uganda was 4.7 persons which was close to that from the previous censuses of 4.8 in 1991 and 4.7 in 1969. This reflects stable fertility behaviour in Uganda over the past three decades.

Nearly all persons (98 percent) enumerated were Ugandans. This is slightly higher compared to the previous censuses. The proportion of women in the non-Ugandan population increased from 39 percent in 1969 to 50 percent in 2002. Out of the 56 legally recognised ethnic groups, nine

had a population of over one million persons, and they collectively constituted 70 percent of the indigenous population. The Baganda were the largest single tribe (18 percent) followed by the Banyankole (10 percent).

Christianity was the most dominant faith. Catholics were the largest religious group in Uganda with 42 percent of the total population while 37 percent of the population were of the Anglicans/Church of Uganda belief. The Moslems came third with 12 percent.

The sex and age composition of a population has implications for planning. The majority of the population were females as depicted by a sex ratio of 95 males per 100 females. The population of Uganda is increasingly becoming younger, with the proportion of children (population below 18 years of age) having increased from 51 percent in 1969 to 56 percent in 2002, while the proportion of Older persons (aged 60 years and above) decreased from 5.8 percent in 1969 to 4.5 percent in 2002.

### **Population Dynamics**

The data showed that in Uganda marriage is almost universal by age 35, and it begins much earlier among females than their male counterparts. Marital instability was more visible among females than males. Fertility levels have remained high with a Total Fertility Rate of about 7 children per woman.

The mortality levels have improved slightly compared to the 1991 census. The life expectancy at birth was 50.4 years representing a gain of 2 years since 1991. However, infant and under-five mortality rates remained high at 87 and 156 deaths per 1000 live births respectively.

### **Education and Literacy**

The official age for entering primary school is six years. The census found out that 19 percent of all persons aged six years and above were currently attending school. The primary school Net Enrolment Rate was 86 percent while that for secondary school was 23 percent. Among persons aged 15 years and above and out of school, the majority (82 percent) had only completed primary school level.

The Literacy Rate was 70 percent among persons aged 10 years and above, the female and male literacy rates were 62 percent and 77 percent respectively. The literacy levels were higher among the urban population at 88 percent compared to the rural population at 67 percent. The Literacy rate among adolescents 15 – 24 years was 81 percent.

### **Economic Activity**

The Ugandan labour force consists of persons aged 14 to 64 years who were either in paid employment, self-employed or unpaid family workers or were unemployed (without work and available for work). Out of the 12 million persons of working age, 6.7 million (56 percent) were in the labour force.

About 71 percent of the working persons were subsistence farmers, with females having a slightly higher percentage (80) compared to males at 63 percent. The census findings showed that about 9 in every 10 persons with no formal education are in subsistence agriculture and the percentage reduced with increased levels of education. The unemployment rate in Uganda was 4.6 percent, with a high urban unemployment rate of 10 percent as compared to 4 percent in the rural areas. The unemployment rate was lowest amongst persons without secondary education (4 percent) and highest amongst those with post secondary education (7.2 percent).

At the time of the 2002 Census, there were 1.1 million Micro Small Enterprises (MSE) in the country, employing 1.7 million people. The majority of the MSEs were in the trade sector.

### **Household and Housing Conditions**

The housing sector recorded a general improvement compared to the situation in 1991. The share of households staying in dwelling units with permanent roof materials increased from 40 percent to 56 percent while those with permanent wall materials increased from 12 percent to 28 percent and those with permanent floor materials increased from 14 percent to 22 percent. Overall 18 percent of the households were staying in permanent dwellings in 2002.

Generally, household welfare was poor particularly in the areas where income poverty is pervasive i.e. the North and East. More than two thirds (68 percent) of the households were dependent on subsistence farming for a livelihood. About one third of households with children had all children having a separate blanket, less than half of Uganda's households had members with at least a pair of shoes each. Twenty percent of households had only one set of clothing for each member; three quarters of the households were using *tadoobas* (open paraffin lamp) for lighting.

Use of wood fuel for cooking is almost universal as only three percent of the households use other fuels. Three in every five households had access to safe drinking water. Use of safe toilet facilities was not universal as thirty percent of the households lacked safe facilities.

### **Special Interest Populations**

There are various sub-populations that are of special interest because of their potential and or vulnerability. These include children, youths, older persons and persons with disabilities among others. The census showed that there were 13.4 million children (population below 18 years) in 2002, and these constituted 56 percent of the total population

The majority of children lived in households. Out of the 5 million households in Uganda, 3.9 million (78 percent) had at least one child. The census further shows that 13 percent of the children were orphans, having increased from 11.6 percent in 1991.

Vulnerability is a state where one bears a substantive risk of suffering physical, social, psychological, mental and emotional harm in comparison with other children in the same environment. The Census showed that a total of 3.3 million in Uganda were vulnerable. This constituted 24 percent of all the children. Of the children aged 12 – 17 years seven percent were child mothers. There were slightly more than 600,000 children age (5 – 17) years who were working. Despite the existing laws against child labour, five (5) percent of the working children aged 5 -17 years were child labourers.

The total number of older persons (aged 60 years and above) increased from 686,000 persons in 1991 to 1.1 million in 2002. About one third of the older persons were literate and 13 percent were working. One in every eight older persons were living alone.

Nationally, 4 percent of the population had a disability. The prevalence increased with increasing age. Out of the persons with disabilities, 13 percent had more than one type of disability. About half (45 percent) did not receive any rehabilitation. In general households with a PWD had lower welfare indicators compared to those without. Most common disabilities were physical.