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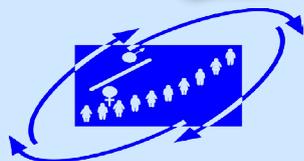


Republic of Cameroon
Peace - Work - Fatherland

3^e RGPH

Volume II - Tome 04

**SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC SITUATION
OF ORDINARY HOUSEHOLDS**



BUCREP



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PREFACE

According to Decree No. 2001 /251 of 13 September 2001, the President of the Republic instituted the Third General Population and Housing Census (3rd GPHC), thereby marking the start of a great national operation which enabled the counting of human and housing resources on the national territory.

The said Decree set up the following bodies for purposes of coordinating, carrying out and supervising national population census operations:

- The National Council, which was the supreme census body comprising, inter alia, members of Government, regional governors and civil society representatives. It provided a general orientation as well as the coordination and supervision of census operations;
- The National Coordination Unit, whose role was entrusted to the Central Bureau of Censuses and Population Studies (BUCREP) by the aforementioned Decree, carried out all the operations of the 3rd GPHC.
- The Technical Committee, which was made up of officials of the major ministries involved and Government structures which produce and/or use population data, played a follow-up role as well as ensured the smooth conduct of operations. It also played an interface role between the National Coordination Unit and the National Council.
- The Subdivisional, Divisional and Regional Committees coordinated the 3rd GPHC activities as well as organized sensitization and information campaigns targeting the public on the objectives and conduct of Third Census operations.

After the November 2005 enumeration exercise, 3rd GPHC findings were published. Today, these findings enable us:

- i) To obtain major population trends through indicators dealing with population characteristics and dynamics;
- ii) To know housing characteristics and the living environment of the population;
- iii) To have indicators indispensable for the preparing and follow-up/assessment of various development plans and programmes as well as the follow-up of the realization of our national and international development objectives such as those found in the 2035 Vision, the Strategic Paper on Growth and Employment, the Plan of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, as well as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

I seize this opportunity to express the gratitude of the Cameroon Government to all those who contributed to the success of this operation. I am particularly grateful to our development partners, the most important being the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). Their technical and financial assistance enabled us to produce these results.

I am also grateful to:

- Political and administrative authorities , Third GPHC National Council members as well as members of the Third GPHC Technical Committee and those of Third GPHC subdivisional, divisional and regional committees for their contribution to the success of this operation ;
- Temporary staff (controllers, crew leaders, enumerators as well as verification, coding and data-capture agents) for their decisive contribution to the conduct of the census operation.
- The population which mobilized and was available to provide relevant data during the enumeration exercise.

Finally, I would not fail to express my satisfaction to the National Coordination Unit and all the staff of the Central Bureau of Censuses and Population Studies.

Louis Paul MOTAZE,
Minister of the Economy, Planning
and Regional Development

FOREWORD

A general population and housing census provides the best source of complete and detailed data involving the smallest geographical details in terms of the demographic, economic and socio-cultural characteristics of the population. These data are a precious instrument for designing, following up and assessing development plans and programmes at the council, regional and national levels.

Cameroon has realized three general population and housing censuses. The first was in April 1976, the second, in April 1987 and the third, in November 2005. The Third General Population and Housing Census (3rd GPHC) was necessary since statistical data concerning the first two had become obsolete.

The 3rd GPHC was conducted in several phases, namely, the production of technical documents; the updating of the census mapping of the entire country, including the drafting of a list of towns and villages; the division of the national territory into census units called enumeration areas; the conduct of a pilot census; the recruitment and training of various categories of staff; the realization of sensitization campaigns; the conduct of the main enumeration exercise; the realization of a post-enumeration survey; the use and analysis of collected data; and lastly, the publication and dissemination of findings.

The publication plan of Third GPHC findings comprises six volumes and some special documents, namely:

- Volume 1- It handles the 3rd General Report. It has seven (7) parts. They deal with the general methodology, the mapping report, the general enumeration report, the post-enumeration survey report, the verification and codification report, the data-capture report as well as the administrative and financial report;
- Volume II- It has fourteen (14) parts. It deals with thematic analyses;
- Volume III- It presents the national demographic situation in four (4) parts. These parts are, namely, a synthesis of major 3rd GPHC major findings, the socio-demographic indicators of Cameroon in 2005, the demographic projections of Cameroon and atlases of 3rd GPHC findings ;
- Volume IV- It is made up of thirteen (13) parts. It presents national statistical data as well as data on the ten regions and the two major towns of Cameroon (Douala and Yaounde);
- Volume V- It deals with regional monographic studies and has ten (10) parts;
- Volume VI- It presents urban socio-demographic studies in twelve (12) parts.

As concerns thematic analyses, which constitute the subject of Volume II, they treat some demographic, economic and socio-cultural aspects of Cameroon. During

national meetings, the choice of themes underwent a validation process which involved major users of census findings. The analyses were done by a multidisciplinary team (demographers, statisticians, economists, sociologists, geographers, etc) of national consultants as well as some senior staff from BUCREP, the National Institute of Statistics (INS), and the Ministry of the Economy, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT). This team benefited from the assistance of a Senior Technical Adviser of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and the supervision of the Institute for Demographic Training and Research (I.F.O.R.D.).

The finalization and validation of thematic analyses took place during a national seminar which brought together eminent university lecturers, representatives of the ministries involved and of other Government institutions as well as some civil society personalities. UNFPA and I.F.O.R.D. provided some assistance throughout the production of all the analysis reports. In a nutshell, a national and international team was mobilized to guarantee the quality of the analysis reports that are, now, rendered public in this volume which comprises the following 14 parts:

Part 1, entitled “The State and Structure of the Population”, shows the various trends of the size of the Cameroon population and provides its distribution in space as well as its composition according to sex and ages. This analysis also describes the composition of the population of Cameroon according to economic and socio-cultural characteristics;

Part 2, entitled “Schooling-Education-Literacy”, first of all, presents the characteristics of the school-going population and the schooling levels in Cameroon, and then the characteristics of the population according to educational levels. Lastly, it shows the literacy levels and characteristics in Cameroon;

Part 3, entitled “The Economic Activities of the Population”, presents the structure of the active population according to occupation statuses. It also carries out a study on employed persons on the basis of some characteristics, especially the occupation sector and branch of activity. Furthermore, it lays special emphasis on unemployment, which expresses the unsatisfied employment needs of the national active population. The characteristics of the inactive population are also studied;

Part 4, entitled “the Socio-demographic Characteristics of Ordinary Households”, studies the various types of households in Cameroon in accordance with some characteristics, the changes in the numbers and sizes of ordinary households between 1987 and 2005 on the basis of regions and the environment of residence (rural-urban), as well as the socio-economic characteristics of household heads;

Part 5, entitled “Housing Characteristics and the Living Environment of the Population”, describes the physical characteristics of dwellings and elements of the living environment of households. It also studies housing issues concerning the environment and land, as well as classifies dwellings according to their grades and population density;

Part 6, entitled “Marital Status and Marriage Rate”, analyses marital statuses according to the environment of residence, marriage settlements and some socio-cultural characteristics. Furthermore, it studies the marriage rate of unmarried persons and lays special emphasis on early marriages;

Part 7, entitled “Birth and Fertility Rates”, provides data on birth rates and its trends as well as fertility schedules and rates according to the environment of residence and some socio-cultural / economic characteristics;

Part 8, entitled “Mortality Rate”, assesses and presents the death rates and patterns of children aged less than five as well as the overall mortality rate in Cameroon in the form of mortality tables. Moreover, it also presents the pattern and prevalence rate of chronic diseases in Cameroon;

Part 9, entitled “Migratory Movements”, presents the types and characteristics of migrants as well as the migration situation in Cameroon. It also analyses the effects of migratory movements on urbanization in Cameroon and takes a look at international migration;

Part 10, entitled “The Socio-economic Situation of Children and Youths”, provides a better picture of the demographic profile of children and youths. Furthermore, it studies the major socio-economic challenges of youths by highlighting the schooling levels of children and the education/employment of youths. It also sheds light on the situation of vulnerable children;

Part 11, entitled “The Socio-economic Situation of Women”, presents the characteristics of the female population. Moreover, it takes a look at the schooling, education, literacy and involvement of women in economic activities. It also presents female household heads and their living conditions in households, as well as lays special emphasis on the vulnerable female population;

Part 12, entitled “The Socio-economic Situation of Elderly Persons”, presents, first of all, the demographic profile and socio-economic/cultural characteristics of elderly persons. It then tackles the living conditions and health problems of these persons. Lastly, it highlights the remaining work to be done in order to provide social protection to as many elderly persons as possible;

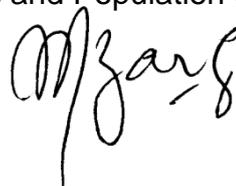
Part 13, entitled “The Socio-economic Situation of Disabled Persons”, provides many relevant indicators pertaining to this category of the population, namely, the size of the population of the said category within the total population, as well as the socio-economic and cultural characteristics of this category;

Part 14, entitled “The Measurement and Mapping of Poverty in Cameroon”, is a study of non-monetary poverty on the basis of housing characteristics (building materials and comforts). Furthermore, from the national right down to the divisional level, it determines the effects of poverty on the population according to a classification of ordinary households under five wealth groups which range from the poorest to the richest.

Incidentally, though these studies were carried out in 2010, they refer to the social and economic context which obtained in 2005, the year during which data were collected from the field. However, the recommendations of the studies tally with orientations mentioned by the Growth and Employment Strategy as well as perspectives aimed at transforming Cameroon into an emergent country by 2035.

Mrs Bernadette MBARGA

Director General of Central Bureau of the
Census and Population Studies



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This study entitled “Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Ordinary Households” seeks to examine the distribution of ordinary household heads according to characteristics such as sex, age, employment status, marital status, etc. It also examines the variation of ordinary household structures and composition by rural/urban residence, regional location and socio-demographic characteristics of ordinary household heads such as age, sex, marital status, etc. The study also places emphasis on the characteristics of specific households (households headed by children, women and the elderly).

3399346 ordinary households were enumerated in Cameroon in 2005 with 1783016 (52.5%) in urban areas and 1616330 (47.5%) in rural areas. Between 1987 when the Second General Population and Housing Census of Cameroon was carried out and 2005 when the third was carried out, the number of ordinary households in Cameroon increased by 1300596 representing an annual growth rate of 2.6%. In urban areas, they increased from 732457 to 1783016 representing an annual growth rate of 4.8% while the rural milieu witnessed only a slight increase, moving from 1366273 to 1616330 representing an annual growth rate of 0.9%. While the proportion of households in urban areas increased from 38.5% to 52.5% between 1987 and 2005, in rural areas, this proportion instead reduced from 61.5% to 47.5%.

77% of ordinary household heads in the country are males and only 23% are females. The proportion of female household heads is higher in urban areas where it is 24.7% than in rural areas where it is only 21.1%. The proportions of female household heads are very low in the North region where it is 10.9% and in the Adamawa where it is 13.9%. The proportions of female household heads are relatively high for the West and North West regions where their proportions are 35.2% and 30.8%, respectively.

The average age of ordinary household heads in the country is 43.6 years. It is higher for female (46.8 years) than for male household heads (42.6 years). It is higher for rural than urban areas. The lowest mean age of ordinary household heads of 41.2 years is registered in the East region and the highest of 48.5 years in the West regions.

A majority of ordinary household heads is married and lives either in monogamous or polygamous unions. While 55.1% are in monogamous unions, 18.6% are in polygamous unions. The proportion of married household heads is higher in rural than urban areas. In urban areas, 68.7% of ordinary household heads are in marital unions against 77.2% for rural areas. The proportions of household heads that are in marital unions and especially in polygamous unions are higher in the Northern regions of Cameroon (Adamawa, North and Far North) than other

regions. The proportion of household heads that are in marital unions is relatively lower for the South region than other regions of Cameroon.

29.6% of ordinary household heads have never been to school, 32.2% have only primary education and only 8.9% have higher education. In the Far North region, up to 64.8% of household heads are uneducated and only 2.2% of them have higher educational level. The proportion of household heads that have never been to school is equally high for the Adamawa region (52.3%) and the North region (58.3%). The regions with the lowest proportion of household heads that have never been to school are the South and the Centre with 9.2% each.

37.4% of ordinary household heads are Catholics, 24.7% are Protestants and 20.8% are Muslims. Household heads with other religious affiliations are small in terms of proportions and absolute numbers.

68.2% of ordinary household heads in Cameroon are employed with 74.4% for rural areas and 62.8% for urban areas. Household heads who are housewives make up 3.0% of household heads.

The average household size for Cameroon is 5.1. It is 4.8 for urban areas and 5.5 for rural areas. The largest average household size of 6.2 is registered in the Far North region and the lowest of 4.1 in the South region. The overall average household size of 5.1 has changed very little from the 1987 value of 5.2. While average household size increased from 5.3 to 5.5 in rural areas within this period, in urban areas, it instead declined from 5.0 to 4.8. The average household size for households headed by males (6.2) is significantly higher than that of households headed by female (4.1). Average household size increase with ages of household heads before reducing after 59 years. It reduces with increase in educational levels of household heads from 5.6 for households headed by persons with no education to 4.2 for those headed by persons with higher educational levels. The average household size for households headed by Moslems resident in the Northern regions (Adamawa, North and Far North) is higher than that of households headed by persons of other religious affiliations. Average household size of households headed by persons in marital unions is significantly higher than that of households headed by persons who are unmarried, divorced, widowed or cohabitating and it is higher for households headed by employed than for households headed by unemployed persons.

Various forms of household structures exist in Cameroon. The distribution of these household structures varies according to rural/urban residence and social characteristics of household heads such as sex, age, employment status, educational level, religious affiliation and region of residence. Polygamous households for example, are more associated with Moslem heads and residence in the Northern regions than among households of other religious affiliations. Women

are more represented as single person's and single parent households than men. Single person and single household heads are found in greater proportion in urban than in rural areas.

The age composition of households varies with sector of residence, region of location and many socio-economic features of household heads such as age, sex, educational level, etc. For example the highest proportion of old persons live in households headed by widowed persons than in households headed by persons of marital categories and elderly persons are found among greater proportions in households headed by persons with no or primary education than in households headed by persons with higher educational levels.

Households headed by children aged 10-14 years make up 0.4% of all ordinary households. This category of households are headed predominantly by boy children and are more represented in urban than rural areas. The region with the highest proportion of children household heads is the South with 1%.

Households headed by women usually constitute problem households by virtue of the unfavourable socio-economic situation of female household heads. Female household heads make up only 23% of all household heads but constitute 43.1% of household heads who have never been to school. Female household heads are more likely than their male counterparts to be economically vulnerable due to the absence of pensions, employment or property for rents. Female household heads are disproportionately present among heads of single person's or single parent ordinary households

63.0% of elderly persons in Cameroon are household heads. 6 out of every 10 members of households headed by elderly persons are children or youths. This means that many elderly persons have to provide for the basic needs not only for themselves but also for large dependent population. Most elderly household heads continue to work even at advanced ages. A good proportion of them (29.2%) are economically vulnerable due to the absence of personal sources of income (rents, pension or employment). This economic vulnerability of elderly household heads is more acute for old women with a vulnerability rate of 42.6% than old men whose economic vulnerability rate is only 18.4%. 14.1% household heads that are 60 years and above live alone in their households.

RESUME EXECUTIF

Cette étude intitulée « Les caractéristiques sociodémographiques des ménages ordinaires » vise à jeter un regard sur la répartition des chefs de ménage selon quelques caractéristiques telles que le sexe, le statut de l'emploi et le statut matrimonial. En outre, elle analyse les structures des ménages ordinaires et leur composition selon le milieu de résidence (urbain/rural) et selon la région de résidence, ainsi que les caractéristiques socio-démographiques des chefs de ménage tels que l'âge, le sexe, l'état matrimonial. L'étude porte également sur les caractéristiques des « ménages spécifiques », c'est-à-dire, les ménages dirigés par les enfants, les femmes et les personnes âgées.

En 2005, 3.399.346 ménages ordinaires ont été dénombrés au Cameroun soit 1.783.016 (52,5%) en milieu urbain et 1.616.330 (47,5%) en milieu rural. Entre 1987, année du Deuxième Recensement Général de la Population et de l'Habitat au Cameroun, et 2005, année de la réalisation du Troisième Recensement, le nombre de ménages ordinaires a connu une augmentation de 1.300.596 ménages, soit un taux de croissance annuel de 2,6%. En milieu urbain, le nombre est passé de 732.457 à 1.783.016, soit un taux de croissance annuel de 4,8%. Le milieu rural a connu une légère augmentation : le nombre de ménages ordinaires est passé de 1.366.273 à 1.616.330, soit un taux de croissance annuel de 0,9%. Alors que la proportion des ménages en milieu urbain a connu une croissance de 38,5% à 52,5% entre 1987 et 2005, en milieu rural, elle a plutôt subi une baisse de 61,5% à 47,5%.

Au Cameroun, les hommes représentent 77% des chefs de ménage, tandis que les femmes constituent seulement 23% de ladite population. En milieu urbain, la proportion des femmes chefs de ménage (24,7%) est supérieure à celle du milieu rural (21,1%). Ladite proportion est relativement faible au Nord (10,9%) et dans l'Adamaoua (13,9%). A l'Ouest et au Nord-Ouest, elle est respectivement 30,8% et 35,2%.

L'âge moyen des chefs de ménage ordinaire est 43,6 ans. Par sexe, l'âge moyen des femmes chefs de ménage (48,6 ans) est supérieur à celui des hommes chefs ménages (42,6 ans). Par milieu de résidence, il est plus élevé en milieu rural qu'en milieu urbain. Il atteint le niveau le plus bas à l'Est (41,2 ans) et le niveau le plus élevé au Nord-Ouest (48,5 ans).

La plupart des chefs de ménages ordinaires sont mariés, que ce soit en union monogamique ou polygamique. La proportion des chefs de ménage mariés est plus élevée en milieu rural (77,2%) qu'en milieu urbain (68,7%). La proportion des chefs de ménage mariés, particulièrement en union polygamique est plus élevée dans la partie septentrionale du Cameroun (l'Adamaoua, le Nord et l'Extrême-Nord) que dans d'autres régions. Le Sud a la plus faible proportion de chefs de ménage mariés.

Au Cameroun, 29,6% de chefs de ménage sont sans niveau d'instruction ; 32,2% de ces chefs sont de niveau primaire et 8,9% seulement ont un niveau supérieur. A l'Extrême-Nord, 64,8% de chefs de ménage sont sans niveau d'instruction et seulement 2,2% sont de niveau supérieur. Les proportions des chefs de ménage sans niveau d'instruction sont élevées dans l'Adamaoua (52,3%) et au Nord (58,3%). Les régions avec les proportions les plus faibles de chefs de ménage sans niveau d'instruction sont celles du Sud (9,2%) et le Centre (9,2%).

En ce qui concerne la religion, 37,4% de chefs de ménage sont des catholiques, 24,7% des protestants et 20,8% des musulmans. Les chefs de ménage d'autres obédiences religieuses constituent de faibles proportions. En termes d'emploi, 68,2% des chefs de ménage sont des employés (74,4% en milieu rural et 62,8% en milieu urbain). Les chefs de ménage qui sont ménagères constituent 3,0% de la population totale des chefs de ménage.

La taille moyenne des ménages au Cameroun est de 5,1, soit 4,8 en milieu urbain et 5,5 en milieu rural. La plus grande taille moyenne est celle de l'Extrême-Nord (6,2) alors que le plus faible est celle du Sud (4,1). Depuis 1987, la taille moyenne des ménages au Cameroun est passée de 5,2 à 5,1. Elle est passée de 5,3 à 5,5 en milieu rural pendant ladite période, par contre en milieu urbain, elle a passé de 5,0 à 4,8. La taille moyenne des ménages dirigés par les hommes (6,2) est plus élevée que celle des ménages dirigés par des femmes (4,1). La taille moyenne des ménages augmente avec l'évolution des âges des chefs de ménage, avant d'amorcer une baisse après 59 ans. Par contre, elle baisse avec l'augmentation du niveau d'instruction des chefs de ménage : de 5,6 pour les ménages dirigés par des personnes sans niveau d'instruction à 4,2 pour les ménages dirigés par des personnes de niveau supérieur. La taille moyenne des ménages dirigés par des musulmans résidant dans la partie septentrionale est plus élevée que celles des ménages dirigés par des personnes d'autres religions. Celle des ménages dirigés par des personnes mariées est plus élevée que celle des célibataires, divorcés, veufs et personnes vivant en concubinage. La taille moyenne des ménages dirigés par des employés est plus élevée que celle des ménages dirigés par des chômeurs.

Au Cameroun, il existe différents types de structures des ménages ordinaires. Leur répartition varie selon le milieu de résidence (urbain/rural) et les caractéristiques des chefs de ménage (sexe, âge, statut de l'emploi, niveau d'instruction, religion et région de résidence). Les ménages de polygame, par exemple, font plus penser aux chefs de ménage musulmans résidant dans la région septentrionale qu'aux chefs de ménage d'autres religions. Les femmes chefs de ménage se retrouvent plus dans les familles constituées de singleton ou des familles monoparentales que les hommes. Les ménages des singletons et les ménages monoparentaux sont plus nombreux en milieu urbain qu'en milieu rural.

La structure par âge des ménages varie selon le milieu de résidence, la région et certaines caractéristiques sociodémographiques des chefs de ménage tels que l'âge, le sexe et le niveau d'instruction. Par exemple, la plus grande proportion de personnes âgées se trouve dans les ménages dirigés par des veufs/veuves comparativement aux ménages dirigés par des personnes d'autres groupes matrimoniaux ; la plus grande proportion des personnes âgées se trouve dans les ménages dirigés par des personnes sans niveau d'instruction ou un niveau primaire d'instruction comparativement aux ménages dirigés par des personnes disposant d'un niveau d'instruction élevé.

Les ménages dirigés par les enfants (10-14 ans) constituent 0,4% de la totalité des ménages. Cette catégorie de ménages est en majorité dirigée par des garçons. Elle est plus nombreuse en milieu urbain qu'en milieu rural. Le Sud a le taux le plus élevé des chefs de ménage dont les âges varient de 10 à 14 ans (1%).

Les ménages dirigés par les femmes constituent un groupe particulier à cause de la situation socioéconomique défavorable des chefs de ménage de sexe féminin. Les femmes chefs de ménage représentent 23% de la totalité des chefs de ménage; par contre, elles constituent 43,1% de la totalité des chefs de ménage sans niveau d'instruction. Les chefs de ménage de sexe féminin sont susceptibles d'être plus économiquement vulnérables à cause de l'absence d'une pension de retraite, d'un emploi et d'une propriété en location. Cette catégorie de chefs est présente, de façon disproportionnée parmi les chefs de ménage singletons ou les chefs des ménages monoparentaux.

Au Cameroun, 63,0% des personnes âgées sont des chefs de ménage. Six personnes sur dix dans un ménage dirigé par des personnes âgées sont des enfants ou des jeunes. Ceci signifie que les chefs de ménage âgés satisfont non seulement à leurs besoins essentiels, mais aussi à ceux d'une population économiquement dépendante. La plupart des chefs de ménage âgés continuent de travailler. Une proportion non négligeable de ces chefs (29,2%) sont économiquement vulnérables à cause d'une absence de sources personnelles de revenus (loyers, pensions de retraite ou emploi). Cette vulnérabilité économique des chefs de ménage âgés est plus grave chez les femmes âgées (42,6%) que chez les hommes âgés (18,4%). Au Cameroun, 14,1% de personnes âgées vivent seules dans leurs ménages.

NB:

Ménage = ménage ordinaire.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BUCREP	Bureau Central des Recensements et des Etudes de Population
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
ECAM	Enquete Camerounaise auprès des ménages
GPHC	General Population and Housing Census
HIV/AIDS	Human Immune Virus/ Acquired Immune Dificiency Syndrome
HH	Household head
MDG	Millenium Development Goal
SAP	Structural Adjustment Programme

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INTRODUCTION

This study entitled “Socio-Economic Situation of Ordinary Households” is one of the fourteen (14) themes that are being examined using data collected during the Third General Population and Housing Census of Cameroon that took place in November 2005. The ordinary household is the basic unit for data collection and analysis during censuses and surveys such as demographic and health surveys (DHS) and the various household surveys which are commonly known in Cameroon as ECAM.

Ordinary households, which host more than 99.0% of the population of Cameroon, refer to a single or a group of related or unrelated persons living in the same residential unit, often dining together and generally meeting their basic needs together, is the basic unit for the production and consumption of goods and services. In this connection, the ordinary household becomes a useful unit for the study of essential manifestations such as poverty, dependency, fertility, mortality, marriage, migration, etc. This thus, makes the ordinary household the basic unit for the observation and explanation of many phenomena that start there and become ramified at the larger scale of society.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The analysis of the socio-economic situation of ordinary households falls in line with the objective of the 3rd GPHC of Cameroon of throwing light on the socio-economic situation of the population. The general objective of this study is to identify and analyze the socio-demographic characteristics of ordinary households as observed during the Third General Population and Housing Census of Cameroon realise in 2005.

Specifically, this study aims to come out

- with a typology of ordinary households based on relationships within the households
- the evolution in the numbers and sizes of ordinary households by regions and rural-urban milieu between 1987 and 2005, rural/urban and regional distribution in 2005,
- the socio-demographic characteristics of household heads such as sex, age, religion, marital status, employment status and links that exist between socio-demographic characteristics of ordinary household heads (sex, age, religious affiliation, employment status, marital status and educational level) and characteristics of households such as their structures and sizes and age composition.

INTEREST AND JUSTIFICATION OF THE STUDY

The analysis of the theme “Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Ordinary households falls in line with the objectives of the Third General Population and Housing Census which consists in the collection and analysing of information on living conditions of the population.

At the level of the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs), the analysis goes in line with many of its objectives which include the elimination of extreme poverty, the promotion of gender equality, etc.

The dynamics within ordinary households are very important for resource allocation, the domestic division of labour and decision-making. The nature of authority and power between husband and wife , between co-wives, or between mother-in-law and in marrying wife, between generations and children of co-wives , have implications for behaviour that affect fertility, marriage, migration, health and mortality through differential access to resources .

Social relationships between members of one household and non-members also have demographic implications. These relationships may provide access to material, social and cultural resources as diverse as money income, food, opportunities for employment and education, marriage partners, child care and political support. They may also be channels for less desirable, but less important impacts such as the transmission of diseases, demand on economic resources, obligation to provide care and violence or victimisation.

Considering the ordinary household as a domestic and basic unit with decision making autonomy as regards production and consumption, a study of their socio-economic features becomes important for the analysis of aspects of the society such as poverty and the occurrence of demographic events. The census becomes the best source of information for the study of socio-demographics of the ordinary household which will throw light on the socio-demographic characteristics of the Cameroonian society as a whole.

ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

This study is divided into five chapters:

-The first chapter deals with the social, cultural and economic contexts of existence of the ordinary household in Cameroon. It also deals with the definition of both the operational concepts and derived concepts, and variables that are used for the study.

- The second chapter is entitled “Structure and Types of Ordinary Households. It examines the distribution of the population of Cameroon

by household type (ordinary and collective such as dormitories, prisons, old persons' homes, religious convents,, refugee camps, etc and other forms of households such as homeless homes and nomad homes. It also examines the structure of ordinary households based on relations within the household with the household head or the spouse. The chapter treats the links that exist between socio-economic characteristics of the ordinary household heads and household structure. It also focuses on rural/ urban and regional variations as well as evolution of these households over time.

- The third chapter centres on the sizes of households. It essentially focuses on the evolution of average household sizes, their evolution over time, their rural/urban and regional evolution and the links between ordinary household size and some socio-demographic characteristics of the ordinary household head.
- Chapter four focuses on specific households. These are households headed by specific populations such as women, adolescents (10-14) and elderly persons (persons aged 60+). Like other chapters, this one examines evolution over time as well as rural/urban and regional variations.
- The fifth chapter examines the socio-demographic characteristics of specific ordinary households (households headed by children 10-14, women and elderly persons).

CHAPTER I: CONTEXT AND METHODOLOGICAL ASPECTS

In order to better understand the socio-demographic characteristics of ordinary households, an understanding of the contexts in which they exist is necessary. It is also important to know the various concepts that are used in data collection during the Third General Population and Housing Census.

1.1. CONTEXT

Cameroon is a country noted for its socio-cultural diversity with the co-existence of many socio-cultural groups. Each group has its own organizational set up and customs. These diversities go with differences in the composition, size and other socio-economic characteristics of ordinary households. Differences in income, educational levels, sector of residence, social position, religion, etc. also have a bearing on the socio-economic situation of households in Cameroon.

The changing socio-economic atmosphere characterized by an increasing cost of living, urbanization and modernization as well as the nucleation of family structures are combining in various degrees to produce differences in household sizes and composition in Cameroon. Even though the most represented family type in Cameroon is the extended type, the emergence of the nuclear and even single parent households is thought to be on the rise.

The main economic activity in Cameroon especially in rural areas is agriculture, which is mostly subsistence and plantation agriculture. This subsistence agriculture is labour-intensive thereby partly influencing the emergence of large households especially in rural areas. In the urban areas, the main activities are in the tertiary sector dominated by informal sector activities. This leads us to suggest that households in urban areas ought to be smaller than those in the rural areas.

In Cameroon as in many other parts of Africa, men play leadership roles in the cultural, economic and political spheres. It is expected that men should be disproportionately in higher proportions as ordinary household heads.

One of the events that may have significantly affected the household composition and size of Cameroon is the changing economic situation. This economic situation has evolved in four phases since independence in 1960. These phases are as follows:

The first phase from 1960 to 1979 was characterised by an economic growth of between 3 to 5% in real terms;

The second phase characterized by an accelerated economic growth with growth rates of 7% per year due to rising prices of primary products such as petrol, banana, cocoa and coffee. This period lasted only for a few years (1980-86). These periods of economic prosperity were characterised by important investments in the social sectors such as the health and education.

These periods of economic growth were interrupted by a severe economic crisis that lasted from the later part of 1986. It lasted for 10 years, reaching its apex in 1993/94 with the devaluation of the national currency. This phase was characterised by negative economic growth rates.

The last phase characterised by economic rebirth started in the 1996/1997 financial year but the economic growth has not been high enough to reverse the negative effects of many years of economic slowdown.

In order to better face the negative impacts of the economic and the accompanying social crisis, the government of Cameroon with the support of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank implemented the Structural Adjustment Program (SAP) and a 50% reduction in the value of the national currency, the franc CFA. The implementation of the SAP was marked by measures to reduce government expenditure resulting in salary cuts within the public sector and significant retrenchment of state personnel and a reduction of new intakes into the public service, which is still the main employer in Cameroon. At the same time, there were massive reductions of governments' expenditures in the social sector. The consequences were intensified poverty and a deterioration of the living conditions of many Cameroonians. Impacts of the implementation of the Structural Adjustment Program were negatively felt within Cameroonian households as many individuals took personal coping measure including postponement of marriages, and to some extent a reduction in number of children.

One of the phenomena that may have profoundly modified the composition and size of the ordinary households in Cameroon is HIV/AIDS infection. The results of the 2006, Cameroon Demographic and Health Survey showed that about 5% of the total population of Cameroon was affected by HIV/AIDS. The consequences of HIV/AIDS infection include the deaths of parents and children thereby modifying the composition of households. In some cases, parents die leaving behind children, some of whom become household heads at very tender ages.

Another phenomenon that has continued to affect ordinary households in Cameroon is migration especially rural-urban migration. Rural-urban drift involves mostly young persons. This has resulted in rapid increase in the number and proportions of ordinary households found in urban areas at the detriment of rural areas. The fact that rural-urban movement of populations involves essentially young people has important consequences and differences on both rural and urban

household composition. In rural households, there seem to be some deficiency of persons of adult ages while in the urban milieu there seems to be a predominance of young adults.

1.2. METHODOLOGY

The information for this analysis comes from data that were collected on the characteristics of the population of Cameroon during the 2005 General Population and Housing Census. During this census, data were collected like in any census on the entire people resident in Cameroon at the time irrespective of nationality with the exception of diplomats.

1.2.1. Variables for the Analysis

Sex refers to whether the individual is male or female

Relation in the household refers to the relation through blood, marriage, adoption or others uniting persons to the household head or the spouse.

Age refers to the number of completed years that has elapsed since the birth of an individual

Marital status of household head refers to the situation of female ordinary household heads aged 12 and above and male household heads aged 15 and above vis-à-vis marriage. An individual could be single, married in a polygamous or monogamous union, cohabitating, separated, divorced or widowed

Educational level of the household head refers to highest level of education attained by the household head. In this study, the educational levels of the population are classified into four categories- Non, Primary, Secondary and Higher educational Levels

Economic activity of the household head refers to the situation of household head in relation to employment. Information on employment involves employment or unemployment. The question on employment status was addressed to individuals aged 6 and above.

- Household size refers to the total number of residents within any given household
- Milieu of residence refers to where the household is found in relation to urban or rural area as defined during the 3rd GPHC
- Region of residence refers to where an individual resides in relation to the ten regions of Cameroon- Adamawa, Centre, East, Far North, Littoral, North, North West, West, South and South West

- Socio-demographic characteristics of ordinary household heads refer to features of these households such as age, sex, economic activity, marital status, educational level, etc.
- Specific ordinary households are households which may be considered to be vulnerable households by virtue of the advanced ages of the heads (60+), household heads who are too young (10-14) or women ordinary households.

1.2.2. Method of Analysis

The analysis of data for this study involves the description and analysis of the various indicators that are calculated such as averages, percentages, ratios and cross tabulations. This analysis uses maps, graphs and diagrams such as pie charts to present the various indicators that are calculated.

1.2.3. Levels of Analysis

The analysis is carried out in relation to milieu of residence (rural/urban), regional and national levels

1.3. DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS

Two categories of concepts are used in this study. These are derived and operational concepts.

1.3.1. Operational Concepts

Ordinary Household refers to a single person or a group of related or unrelated persons living in the same dwelling unit and often meeting their basic needs together under the authority of one person whom they regard as the head.

Household head is usually a person whose authority over the other household members is recognised. Within the context of the Third General Population and Housing Census, the household head is the person who declares him or herself as such or is declared by another person as the head. He or she is registered at position number 1 in the section reserved for household members and receives code 10

Relationships within the household refer to the links between household members through marriage(s), blood or adoption or others uniting them to the household head or his/her spouse or both.

Household Member refers to any resident of a household present or not at the time of collection of information on the household. Household members who were

absent most not have been away for six months or having the intention of living away for six months or more. Visitors are not included as household members.

1.3.2. Derived Concepts

Average household Size refers to the ratio of the total number of persons in any milieu or region or the country to the total population.

Intergenerational households: These are households in which people of many generations live together.

Number Household Family Nuclei refers to the number of couples within households.

Family refers to a group of people who are united by blood or marriage or adoption. It can be nuclear when it consist of parents and/ or without their children or extended to other members (extended family).

1.4. STRUCTURE OR TYPOLOGY OF HOUSEHOLDS

The classification of ordinary households based on relationships within the households in Cameroon like elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa is very complex. This is due to the complex nature of relationships that exist in Cameroonian ordinary households. The following types of households can be derived from information collected during the 2005 General Population and Housing Census of Cameroon.

Single Person's Household: This is an ordinary household made of one person no matter his or her marital status.

Multiple Persons' Households: Multiple persons' households are households made up of two or more persons. These persons may be related or unrelated. Multiple persons' households can be subdivided into many types depending on the relationships that link the various members to the household head or his or her spouse.

Simple Monogamous Nuclear Household: This type of household exists under the following conditions:

- The first member of the household is the household head;
- The second member is the spouse of the household head;
- Other members of the household must be the unmarried children of the couple.

N.B Simple monogamous nuclear households can be made up of the household head and the wife with or without their children or child. The minimum household size here is 2

iv) Simple Nuclear Polygamous Households: Simple Polygamous Nuclear Households exist under the following instances:

- The first member of the household is the household head;
- The second member of the household is the spouse of the household head;
- Another spouse of the household head lives in the household;
- All other members of the household if they exist must be unmarried children of the couple.

N.B The household head in this type of household must have at least two spouses and the minimum household size is 3.

v) Enlarged Nuclear Household (Monogamous or Polygamous): This is a simple monogamous or polygamous household with a child or children belonging to the household head but not to any of the spouses living in the household. The minimum household size of this type of household is 3.

vi) Extended Monogamous or Polygamous Nuclear Households: This refers to either a nuclear monogamous or polygamous household living with another couple. The minimum household size here is 4.

vii) Complex Monogamous or Polygamous Households: A complex monogamous or polygamous household is made of a household containing unrelated person(s). The minimum household size is 3

viii) Multiple Nuclear Households: These are households that contain more than one family nuclei or couples. The minimum household size here is 4.

ix) Simple Single Parent Households: These are households where the head lives with his or her unmarried children. The minimum household size is 2

x) Enlarged Simple Single Parent Households: This is a household that contains a household head, his or her unmarried children and other unmarried relatives of the household head

xi) Extended Single Parent Households: Household made up of the head and his or her unmarried child or children, another couple or unmarried relative. The minimum household size is 3

xii) Households of Related Persons without a Family Nucleus: This type of household exists under the following conditions:

The household head lives without a child and without a wife

All other household members live without their spouses and offspring

xiii) Households of Related Persons with at least one family nucleus: This type of household exists under the following conditions:

The household head lives without his or her children

One member of the household lives with their spouses. The minimum household size is 3.

xiv) Complex Household of Related Persons with or without a family nucleus: This is when:

The household head lives without the offspring

All other members of the household, relatives of the household live alone or with their spouses. The minimum household size is 3.

There is at least one member who is unrelated to the household head.

xv) Households of Unrelated Persons without a Family Nucleus: This type of household exists under the following conditions:

The household head lives without his or her children or relatives;

All other members of the household are unrelated to the household head and live alone

xvi) Households of Unrelated Persons with at least a Family Nucleus: This type of household exists under the following conditions:

The household head lives with his wife or children

At least one household member who is unrelated to the household head and who lives with a member of his or her family

At least one member of the household who is not related to the household head who lives with his or her relative who himself is not related to the household head -The minimum size for this type of household is 3.

Data Evaluation

Considering the fact that data for this study were already evaluated at different levels, data evaluation has not been carried out here. Data concerning age, for example, was evaluated during the analysis of the age composition of the population and data on sex was also evaluated at that level. Information on age was found to be characterised by much misreporting and appropriate adjustments were carried out. Information on economic activity, marital status, etc has been evaluated at the appropriate levels and adjusted before being used here.

1.5. LIMITATIONS OF THE HOUSEHOLD CONCEPT

The very useful concept of ordinary household can be very misleading in some circumstances. These circumstances include:-

The situation where the interviewer or the respondent may confuse the notion of "household" with that of the "family";

The situation where the effective household head is not well identified. In many traditions and customs, an adult male is always regarded as the household head even when he may not be the effective head;

In some situations people who do not effectively live in the same household such as women in polygamous unions may be considered as members of the same household.

Despite these limitations, the notion of household is still important and forms a fundamental basis in the collection and analysis of census data.

CHAPTER II: SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF ORDINARY HOUSEHOLDS AND SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THEIR HEADS

2.1. DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS BY REGIONS AND RURAL/ URBAN MILIEUX

In 2005, Cameroon counted a total of 3399346 ordinary households. Like the population, these households were very unevenly distributed between rural and urban areas. The distribution of ordinary households in terms of their absolute numbers and proportions between rural and urban milieus and regions is shown in table 2.1

Table 2.1 Region and Rural/Urban Distribution of Ordinary Households

Region	Number of Households by Milieu			% Distribution by Milieu		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Adamawa	59206	91667	150873	3.3	5.7	4.4
Centre	480353	170546	650899	26.9	10.6	19.1
East	53021	93917	146938	2.9	5.8	4.3
Far North	117427	383913	501340	6.6	23.8	14.7
Littoral	513250	45538	576788	28.8	2.8	17.0
North	81013	201979	282992	4.5	12.5	8.3
North West	122832	182387	305219	6.9	11.3	9.0
West	201559	147422	348981	12.5	8.3	10.3
South	56324	97315	153639	3.2	6.0	4.5
South West	134168	147509	281677	7.5	9.1	8.3
Total	1783016	1616330	3399346	52.5	47.5	100.0

2.1.1. Distribution of Ordinary Households between Rural and Urban Areas

Of the 3399346 households that were enumerated in the country in 2005, 1783016 (52.5%) were enumerated in urban areas and 1616330 (47.5%) were counted in rural areas. The distribution of ordinary households between rural and urban areas at regional levels is equally very uneven. With regards to rural-urban distribution of ordinary household at regional levels, two categories of regions can be distinguished. The first category is that of regions where the number of households found in rural areas is higher than that found in urban areas. These regions are the Adamawa, the East, Far North, North, North West, South and South West regions. The second category is made up of regions where the number of urban ordinary

households is higher than the number of rural households. These are the Littoral, Centre and West regions (table 2.1)

2.1.2. Regional Distribution of Ordinary Households

An examination of the regional distribution of ordinary households shows that 4 out of the 10 regions of Cameroon constitute about 61% of all the ordinary households in Cameroon. These are the Centre 19.1%, Littoral 17.0%, Far North 14.7% and the West 10.3%. A second category of regions, 4 of them host between 5 and 9% of ordinary households each. These are the North West (9.0%), the South West (8.3%), North (8.3%) and the East (5.8%), Regions. A last category is made up of regions that contain less than 5.0% of the total number of ordinary households in the country. These are the Adamawa (4.5%) and the South (4.4%), (table 2.1).

2.1.3. Evolution of Ordinary Households 1987-2005

Just as the total population, the number of ordinary households has evolved between the time of the Second General Population and Housing Census that was conducted in 1987 and the time that the third was realised in 2005. This evolution is presented in table 2.2

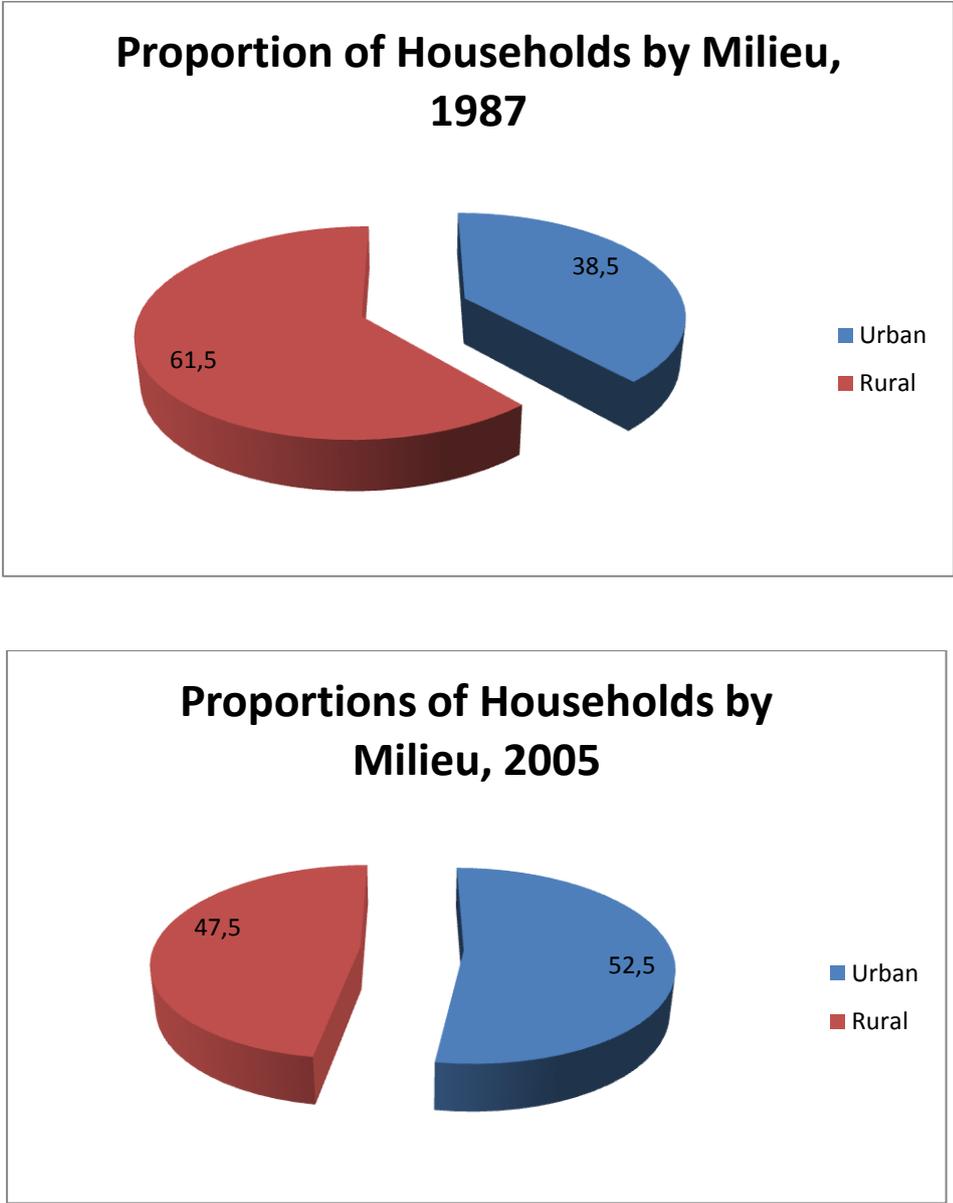
Table 2.2 Growth in Ordinary Household Numbers by Milieu, 1987-2005

Milieu	Number of Households		% Distribution		Annual Growth Rates 87-05
	1987	2005	1987	2005	
Urban	732457	1783016	38.5	52.5	4.8
Rural	1366273	1616330	61.5	47.5	0.9
Total	2098730	3399346	100	100	2.6

During the period 1987-2005, the number of ordinary households in the country increased by 1300616. This increase was 250057 for rural and 1050559 for urban areas, respectively. In terms of annual growth rates, the total annual increase rate was 2.6%. Like the increase in absolute number, the annual increase rate for urban areas (4.8%) was far more than that of rural areas (0.9%). The rapid growth of the number of ordinary households in urban areas has resulted to an increase in its proportion in urban areas at the detriment of that of rural areas. In 1987, only 38.5% of ordinary households were found in urban areas but by 2005, this proportion had risen to 52.5%. At the same time, the proportion of ordinary households in rural areas dropped from 61.5% to 47.5%. Many factors such as rural exodus, high natural increase in urban areas and the transformation of rural areas to urban areas through the creation of administrative units and the encroachment into rural areas by the expansion of urban space partly account for this high rate of increase in the proportion of urban ordinary households. This increase in the proportion of ordinary

households in urban areas at the detriment of those in rural areas between 1987 and 2005 is clearly visualised in figure 2.1.

Figure 2.1 Changing Proportions of the Ordinary Households in Rural and Urban Areas.



2.2. SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ORDINARY HOUSEHOLD HEADS

The socio-economic characteristics of ordinary household heads that are examined here include their sex, age, marital status, employment status and religion. A study of these characteristics is important because it has important effects on the living conditions of all members of the ordinary household.

2.2.1. Sex Distribution of Ordinary Household Heads

Sex is one of the key determinants of access to the position of household head. For cultural and other reasons, male access to the position of ordinary household headship is easier than for females.

Table 2.3a Proportion of Male Household Heads by Milieu and Region

Milieu	Regions										Total
	Adamawa	Centre	East	Far N	Litoral	North	North West	West	South	South west	
Urban	82.1	75.9	77.9	80.8	76.2	83.8	70.6	70.1	70.1	70.7	75.3
Rural	88.7	76.3	85.4	86.0	75.7	91.2	68.2	59.8	76.6	78.5	78.9
Total	86.1	75.4	82.7	84.0	76.1	89.1	69.2	64.2	74.2	74.8	77.0

The most visible feature that comes out of table 2.1a is the fact that in all the regions of the country, males are in a majority as household heads. The dominance of men as household heads is more important in rural than urban areas. As a whole, 77.0% of household heads of Cameroon are males with 75.3% for urban areas and 78.9% for rural areas.

The ten regions of the country can be divided into three categories as far as the proportion of male household heads is concerned. The first category is made up of regions where more than 80% of household heads are men. These regions are North (89.1%) Adamawa (86.4%), Far North (84.0%) and the East (82.7%). The second class of regions concerns those with proportions of male household heads of between 70 and 80%. These are the Littoral (76.1%), Centre (75.4%), South West (74.8%), and South (74.2%). The last group of regions are those considered to have low proportion of male household heads. These are the North West (69.2%) and West (64.2%). There is no region of Cameroon where less than 60% of household heads are males. With the exception of the North West and West regions, the proportions of male household heads in rural areas is higher than urban areas.

Table 2.3b Proportion of Female Household Heads by Milieu and Region

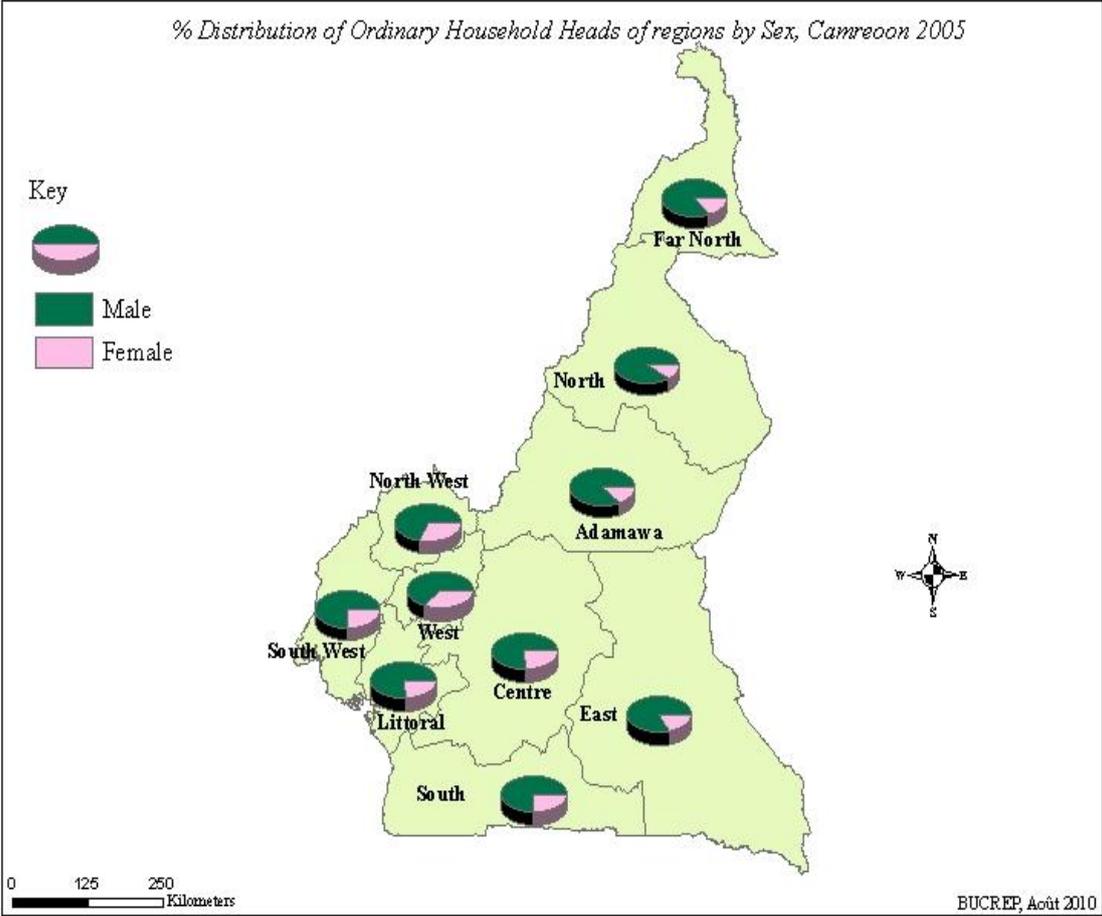
Milieu	Regions										Total
	Adamawa	Centre	East	Far N	Litoral	North	North West	West	South	South west	
Urban	17.9	25.0	22.1	19.2	23.8	16.2	29.4	29.9	29.9	29.3	24.7
Rural	11.3	23.7	14.6	14.0	24.3	8.8	31.8	40.2	23.4	21.5	21.1
Total	13.9	24.6	17.3	15.2	23.9	10.9	30.8	35.2	25.8	25.2	23.0

Women make up for only 23.0% of Cameroonian household heads. In urban areas, this proportion is 24.7% as against 21.1% in rural areas. The situation of a greater

proportion of female household heads in urban than rural areas is common to most regions of Cameroon with the exception of the North West, West and Littoral regions.

When the regional distribution of female household heads is considered, the various regions of Cameroon can be divided into three categories. The first category concerns regions with very low proportions of female household heads; these are regions with proportions of female household heads of between 10 and 20%. These regions are the North (10.9%), Adamawa (13.9%), Far North (15.2%) and East (17.3). The second category of regions is considered to have moderate proportions of female household heads. These are regions with proportions of female household heads of between 20 to 30%. These regions are Littoral (23.6%), Centre (24.6%), South West (25.2%) and the South (25.8%). The last category of regions is that considered to have high proportions of female household head. These are the regions of the North West (30.8%) and West (35.2%). These two regions are those in which a possible greater proportion of male than female out-migration has resulted to high proportions of women who become household heads. The regional distribution of the proportions of male and female household heads is illustrated by map 1

Map 1: % Regional Distribution of Ordinary Househeads by Sex



2.2.2. Ages of Ordinary Household Heads

Age like sex constitutes one of the important elements that govern access to the position of ordinary household heads. The proportion of young persons below 15 who are household heads is usually very small and these young household heads are usually those who live in the absence of older persons.

Figure 2.2a Age Pyramid of Urban Household Heads

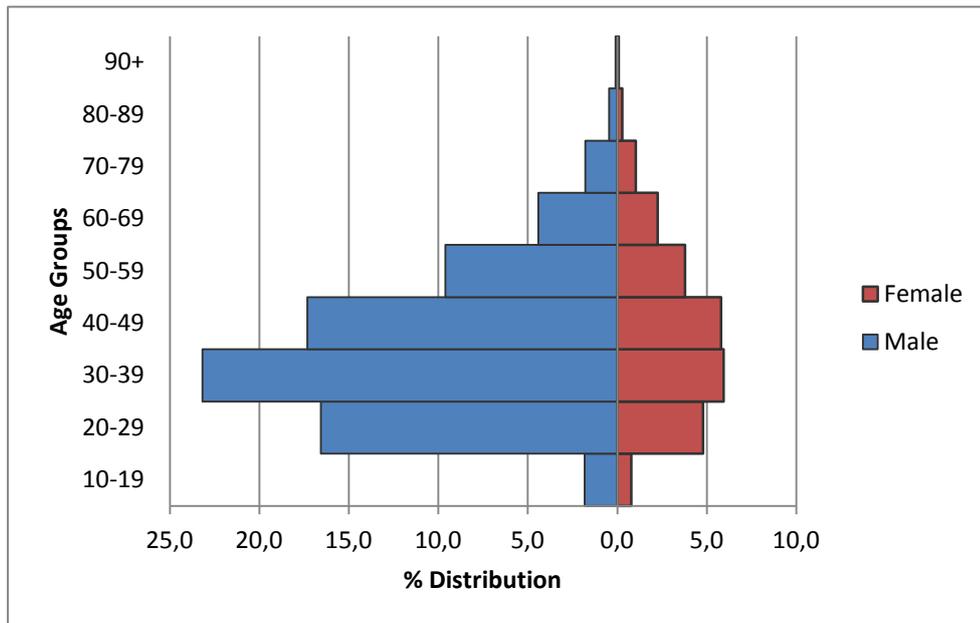
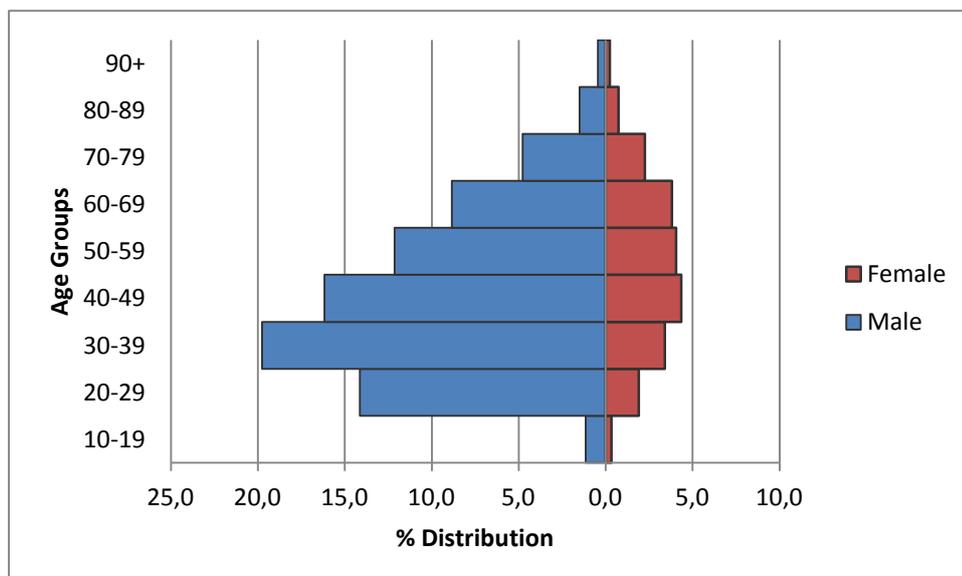
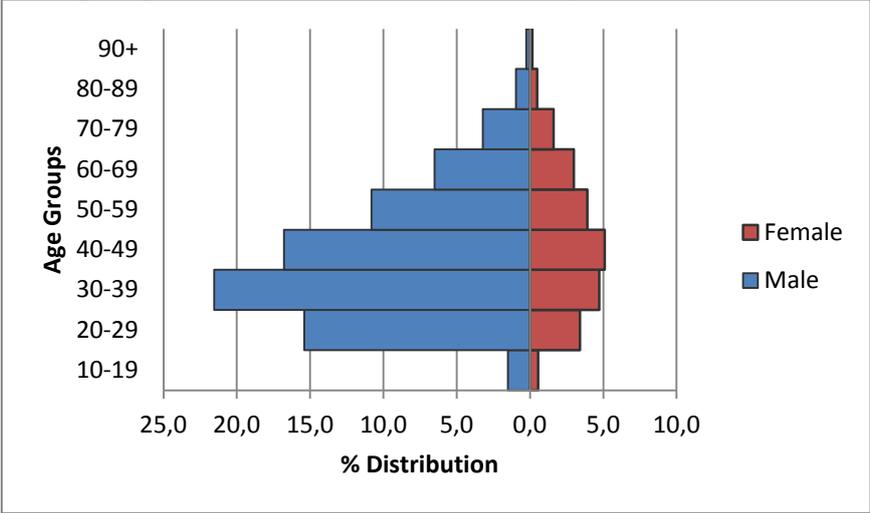


Figure 2.2b Age Pyramid of Rural Household Heads



The proportion of female household heads is smaller than that of men at all ages and milieux of residence but the proportions of female household heads in urban areas are higher than those of female household heads at most ages in rural areas. The disproportionately higher presence of males as household heads at most ages is clearly illustrated in figures 2.2a and 2.2b.

Figure 2.2c Age Pyramids of Household Haeds (both Urban and Rural Areas)



Between 10 and 19 years, the proportion of household heads is very small both in rural and urban areas. A bulk of ordinary household heads is found within the age brackets 20 to 59. The proportion of household heads both males and females who are 60 years and above is very small (figure 2.2). This is an indication of the low life expectancy that characterises Cameroon and many sub Saharan countries.

The mean ages of ordinary household heads by sex and region are shown on table 2.4.

Table 2.3: Sex and Age Distribution of Mean Ages of Ordinary Household Heads by Region and Milieu of Residence

Region/Milieu	Mean Age of Household by Sex (Years)		Total
	Male	Female	
Adamawa	42.4	46.3	42.9
Centre	40.9	44.0	41.6
East	40.4	44.9	41.2
Far North	45.0	51.6	46.0
Littoral	45.0	45.2	42.2
North	41.9	48.8	42.7
North West	45.1	46.6	45.6
West	46.4	52.3	48.5
South	42.6	47.8	43.9
South West	41.0	48.2	43.9
Cameroon Urban	40.3	43.0	40.9
Cameroon Rural	45.1	51.8	46.5
Cameroon Total	42.6	46.8	43.6

The mean age of ordinary household heads for the country is 43.6 years. It is higher for female household heads (46.8 year) than for males (42.6 years) and for rural (46.5 years) than for urban areas (40.9 years). The exodus of mostly young persons from rural to urban areas is partly responsible for the lower mean ages of urban than rural household heads. The higher mean ages for female than male household heads is partly due to the fact that female household headship is to a large extent limited to late ages when women may have been widowed, separated, divorced or when they have opted to leave on their own.

The regional distribution of household heads by mean age leads to the classification of regions into three classes. The first class is made of regions with low mean ages of household heads. These are regions with mean ages less than the national mean age of 43.6 years. These regions are Adamawa (42.9), Centre (41.), East (41.2), Littoral (42.2), South (43.9), South West (43.9) and North (42.7). These regions are those that receive many young people or have low outmigration rates. The second class regions that can be termed high mean age regions are those characterised by mean ages that are above the national mean age. This category is made up of the following regions: - West (48.5 years), Far North (46.0 years) and North West (45.6 years). The high mean ages of household heads of these regions may be due to the high out migration from these regions.

2.2.3. Marital Status of Ordinary Household Heads

The marital status of the household is an important element in the study of the socio-demographic characteristics of ordinary households because it has both direct and indirect implications on the composition and size of the household as well as on the living conditions within the household. A household head may be single, married in a monogamous or polygamous union, separated, divorced, cohabitating or widowed. The distribution of ordinary household heads by various forms of marital status is shown on table 2.4a and 2.4b.

Table 2.4a % Distribution of Ordinary Household Heads by Marital Status (National Level)

Milieu	% Distribution of Household Heads by Marital Status							
	Single	Monogamous Union	Polygamous Union	Cohabitation	Separated	Divorced	Widowed	Total
Urban	17.4	54.8	13.9	1.5	1.2	2.7	8.1	100.0
Rural	11.8	55.8	21.4	0.4	1.1	2.3	5.7	100.0
Total	14.2	55.1	18.6	0.9	1.1	2.5	6.6	100.0

For the country as a whole, 14.2% of ordinary household heads are single with 17.4% in urban areas and 11.8% in rural areas. The higher proportion of unmarried household heads in urban areas may be attributed to late marriages in urban areas and the presence of large student populations especially in university towns who live on their own and are usually single.

Monogamously married household heads form a majority of household heads in both rural and urban areas. Their proportion is slightly higher in rural than urban areas. On average, they constitute 55.1% of all household heads. It seems to be the most widely accepted form of marriage.

18.6% of ordinary household heads are polygamously married. There exists a significant difference in the proportion of polygamously married household heads in rural and urban areas. While only 13.9% of ordinary household heads are polygamously married in urban areas, up to 21.4% of them are polygamously married in rural areas. The lower cost of living and the existence of customs that are more tolerant to polygamy may partly account for this difference.

Less than one percent of Cameroon household heads are cohabitating. The proportion of cohabitating household heads in urban areas (1.5%) is close to four times that of rural areas (0.4%). Cohabitation is a new form of marital status that seems to be taking roots in urban areas.

Household heads living under separation are not many and there is little difference in their proportions between urban and rural areas. They form 1.2% of urban household heads and 1.1% of rural household heads.

Divorced ordinary household heads make up 2.5% of ordinary household heads. The proportion of divorced ordinary household heads is higher in urban (2.7%) than rural areas (2.3%).

Widowed ordinary household heads make up 6.6% of household heads in Cameroon. Their proportion is higher in urban (8.1%) than rural areas (5.7%)

Apart from rural/ urban variations in the marital status of ordinary household heads, there also exist regional variations. These regional variations are presented on table 2.4b

Table 2.4 b % Regional Distribution of Ordinary household Heads by Marital Status

Milieu	% Distribution of Household Heads by Marital Status							
	Single	Monogamous Union	Polygamous Union	Cohabitation	Separated	Divorced	Widowed	Total
Adamawa	14.2	55.9	18.7	0.9	1.1	2.5	6.6	100.0
Centre	25.9	44.1	3.8	14.5	1.8	2.4	8.6	100.0
East	16.5	57.0	8.9	6.5	1.7	1.5	7.8	100.0
Far North	6.5	61.8	18.6	0.4	1.7	1.4	9.5	100.0
Littoral	23.1	51.5	3.0	9.4	1.8	1.4	9.8	100.0
North	11.1	58.2	20.6	0.4	1.4	2.2	6.2	100.0
N.West	19.3	54.6	11.6	0.6	1.7	1.2	10.8	100.0
West	12.8	45.3	11.1	1.5	1.2	1.4	19.7	100.0
South	22.6	44.1	4.3	14.6	2.2	1.3	10.8	100.0
S.West	26.6	55.1	2.7	2.7	1.7	1.4	9.2	100.0

The proportions of single household heads vary enormously between the various regions of Cameroon. Regions where the proportion of single household heads falls below the national average of 14.2% include the Far North (6.5%), the North (11.1%), West (12.8%) and Adamawa (14.2%). Regions with high proportions of single household heads include the South West (26.6%), Centre (25.9%), Littoral 23.1%, South (22.6%), and North West (19.3%). Most of the regions with high proportions of single household heads are regions with high university student populations or those that receive significant numbers of single migrants. However, other factors also account for these high proportions of single or married household heads.

Regional variations in the proportion of households in monogamous unions are significant. Regions such as the South (44.1%), West (45.3%), centre (44.1%) and Littoral (51.1%) can be termed as regions with low proportions of ordinary household heads in monogamous unions. The other regions can be considered regions with high or moderate proportions of household heads in monogamous unions. These regions are the North West (54.6%), South West (55.1%), Adamawa (55.9%), East (57.0%), North (58.2%) and Far North (61.8%).

Proportions of household heads in polygamous unions are shown by regional differences. Centre (3.8%), Littoral (3.0%), South (4.3%) and South West (2.7%) can be considered as regions with very low proportions of household heads in polygamous unions. Regions of moderate proportions of household heads in polygamous unions include the East (8.9%), West (11.1%) and North West (11.6%). The third category of regions concerns those with high proportions of ordinary household heads living in polygamous unions. These regions are Adamawa (18.7%), Far North (18.6%) and North (20.6%). These are regions where Islam and the customs are highly tolerant to polygamous unions.

Regional distribution of ordinary household heads cohabitating shows very wide variations. Apart from the South (14.6%), Centre (14.5%), Littoral (9.4%), East (6.5%), South West (2.7%) and West (1.5%), the rest of the regions have less than 1% of their household heads living under cohabitation.

The proportion of household heads living under separation is very small. It varies from 2.2% in the South to 1.1% in the Adamawa. Divorced household heads are equally few. Their proportions range from 2.5% in the Adamawa through 2.4% in the Centre, 2.2% in the North to 1.2% in the North West.

The regional distribution of the proportions of divorced households shows that only three regions – West (19.7%), North West (10.8%) and South (10.8%) contain more than 10% of household heads who are widowed.

2.2.4. Educational Levels of Ordinary Household Heads

The educational level is one of the key features of ordinary household heads that affect their household sizes, composition and structures. It combines with other elements to bring important bearings on the living conditions of the households as their sizes and compositions. Table 2.5 summarises the distribution of ordinary household heads by educational levels.

Table 2.5a Distribution of Ordinary Household Heads by Educational Level

Educational Level of Household head	% Distribution by Milieu		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Non	15.4	45.2	29.6
Primary	28.0	36.8	32.2
Secondary	41.8	15.6	29.3
Higher	14.8	2.4	8.9

29.8 % of ordinary households in Cameroon have no education, 32.2% have primary education, 29.3% have attained secondary education and only 8.9% have higher education. Close to half (45.2%) of ordinary household heads in rural areas have no education against 15.4% for urban areas. The proportion of ordinary household heads with primary education is 36.8% against 28% for urban areas. Household heads with secondary education are in a higher proportion in urban (41.8%) than rural areas (15.6%). The proportion of ordinary household heads with higher education in urban areas (14.8%) is about six times higher than that of rural areas (2.4%). The greater presence of activities that attract persons with higher education in urban than rural areas such as teaching and administration favour the presence of a higher proportion of person and household heads with higher education. The distribution of educational , health and other infrastructure in favour of urban areas, etc are other factors that account for the high presence of household heads and other persons with higher education in urban than rural areas

The regional distribution of ordinary household heads by educational level is presented on table 2.5b

Table 2.5b % Regional Distribution of Ordinary Household Heads by Educational Levels

Level of Education	% Distribution of Household Heads									
	Adamawa	Centre	East	Far North	Littoral	North	North West	West	South	South West
Non	52.3	9.3	27.4	64.8	10.0	58.3	33.8	30.7	9.2	18.7
Primary	28.1	32,3	41.1	22.9	29.7	15.4	42,4	37.6	34.0	44.5
Secondary	13.5	46,7	27.7	10.1	47.8	13.6	16.5	25.2	50.4	25.9
higher	6.0	18,4	3.8	2.2	12.5	2.7	7.3	6.5	6.5	10.9
Total	100.0	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

When the proportion of ordinary household heads with no education is considered, the regions of Cameroon can be classified into four classes. The first

class is made up of regions with more than 50% of household heads having no level of education. This category includes the Far North (64.8) North (58.3%) and Adamawa (52.3%) regions. The secondary category is made up of regions with proportions of ordinary household heads with no level of education falling between 30 and 50%. These regions include the North West (33.8%) and West (30.7%). The third class is made up of regions whose proportion of ordinary household heads without any level of education range between 15 and 30% and these regions include the South West (18.7%) and East (27.4%) regions. The last category is made up of regions with very low proportions of ordinary household heads that are without education. This group includes the Littoral (10.0), Centre (9.3%) and South (9.2%).

Considering household heads with primary level of education, the ten regions of Cameroon can be classified into two categories. The first category is made up of regions with proportions of household heads with primary education ranging between 40 and 45%. These regions include the East (41.1%), South West 44.5% and North West (42.4%). The second group is made up of the rest of the regions and the proportions of households with primary level of education falls between 20 and 40%.

Considering the proportion of household heads with secondary level of education, the ten regions can be divided into three groups. The first group concerns regions with high proportions of household heads with secondary level of education (above 40%). These regions are: - the Centre (46.7%), Littoral (47.7%) and the South (50.4%). The second class is made up of regions whose proportions of ordinary household heads with secondary level of education range from 20 to 30%. These regions include the South West (25.9%), West (.2%) and East (27.7%). The last category is made up of regions such as the the East (10.1%), North (13.6%) and the North West (16.5%).

Three regions stand out as those with high proportions of ordinary household heads having a higher level education and these regions are: Centre (18.4%), Littoral (12.5%) and South (10.9%). Regions with proportions of ordinary household heads ranging from 10 to 15% with higher level of education can be considered as those with moderate proportions and include the North West (7.3%), West (6.5%), South West (6.5%) and Adamawa (6.0%). The last category of regions can be considered as regions with very low proportions of ordinary household heads having higher levels of education. These regions are the North (2.7%), Far North (2.2%) and East (3.8) (table 2.5b). High proportions of ordinary household heads with higher education are linked to regions with large university centres and administrative functions.

2.2.5. Religious Affiliations of Ordinary Household Heads

The religious affiliation of the household heads is studied here because it is thought to have some implications on his or her marital status, fertility behaviour and gender relations within the households. The distribution of household heads by religion affiliations is presented on table 2.6a and 2.6b

Table 2.6a Distribution of Ordinary Household Heads by Religious Affiliations and Milieu of Residence

Religious Affiliation of Household Head	% Distribution by Milieu of Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Catholics	44.1	30.0	37.4
Orthodox	0.5	0.5	0.5
Protestant	24.7	24.7	24.7
Other Christian	4.9	3.8	4.4
Moslem	17.2	24.6	20.8
Animist	1.7	10.2	5.9
Other religions	1.3	1.1	1.2
Free Thinker	4.8	4.4	4.6

The Catholic faith is the most represented among ordinary households heads. 37.4% of ordinary household heads belong to this faith. Catholic ordinary household heads are more represented in urban areas where they make up 44.1% of ordinary household heads than rural areas where they constitute 30.0%. Ordinary household heads that belong to the Protestant faith come in second position. They represent 24.7% of ordinary household heads and evenly distributed between rural and urban areas. Moslems form the third category of household heads in terms of proportion. They represent 20.8% and are unevenly distributed between rural and urban areas with proportions of 24.6% and 17.2%, respectively. Animists or people who belong to the traditional African religion come in fourth position. They constitute 5.9% of ordinary household heads and are more present in rural (10.2%) than urban areas (1.7%). Ordinary household heads with other religious affiliations make up less than 5.0% each. They include other Christians (4.4%), free thinkers (4.6%), other religious affiliations (1.2%) and Orthodox (0.5%).

The distribution of ordinary household heads by religious affiliation equally shows lots of variations. This variation is shown on table 2.6b

Table 2.6b % Regional Distribution of Household Heads by Religious Affiliations

Religious Affiliation of Household Head	% Regional Distribution of Household Heads									
	Adamawa	Centre	East	Far North	Littoral	North	North West	West	South	South West
Catholic	8.7	60.8	39.0	15.1	49.3	25.7	35.0	34.0	37.9	39.6
Orthodox	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.3	1.3	1.3
Protestant	19.3	21.2	29.8	13.2	26.0	18.1	45.6	20.5	45.3	33.8
Other Chr.	1.4	4.6	5.9	1.5	5.8	2.0	3.2	2.0	5.1	14.2
Moslem	69.0	7.7	19.1	43.1	7.4	39.7	10.0	20.9	6.2	1.9
Animist	0.5	7.0	0.5	21.9	1.4	10.0	0.6	9.1	0.4	0.8
Other Rel.	0.4	1.1	2.5	0.7	1.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	1.5	1.6
Free thinkers	0.2	3.1	2.4	3.3	7.4	2.8	3.5	11.6	1.7	6.1

Even though the Catholic faith is the most represented religious faith among ordinary household heads in Cameroon, there exist important regional differences. The Centre region with 60.8% of household heads belonging to the Catholic faith is the region with the highest proportion of ordinary household heads belonging to this faith. A group of six regions have proportions of ordinary household heads ranging from 30 to 50% belonging to the Catholic faith. These are: Littoral (49.3%), South West (39.6%), East (39.0%), South (37.9), and West (34.0%). The rest of the regions have less than 30% of their ordinary households belonging to the Catholic faith. These are North (25.7%), Far North (15.1%) and Adamawa (8.7%).

The proportion of ordinary household heads belonging to the Orthodox faith is very small and in most regions, it is below 1%. It is only in the South (1.3%) and South West (1.3%) regions that the proportions of ordinary household belonging to the Orthodox faith go above 1%.

Proportions of ordinary household heads who are Protestants are high in the following regions North West (45.6%), South (45.3%) and South West (33.8%). The proportion of ordinary household heads belonging to the Protestant faith falls between 20 and 30% in the Centre (21.2%), East (29.8%), Littoral (26.0%) and West (20.5%). In the other regions it falls below 20% with the lowest proportion of 13.2% for the Far North region (table 2.6b).

The proportion of ordinary household heads who are Christians belonging to other denominations outside Catholicism and Protestantism are represented in small proportions in the different regions of Cameroon. With the exception of the South West region (14.2%), their proportions in other regions generally fall below 6%.

The proportion of ordinary household heads who are Moslems comes after that of Catholics and Protestants in terms of size. They are very unevenly distributed among the ten regions of Cameroon. Their proportions are high in the following regions:-Adamawa region (69.0%), Far North (43.1%), North (39.7%) and West (20.9%). They have modest representations among the ordinary household heads of the East (19.1%) and North West (10.0%). In the other regions, Moslem household heads represent less than 10%.

The proportion of ordinary household heads who are animists (traditional African religion) is quite low. It is only in the Far North (21,9%), North (10%), West (9.1%) and Centre (7%) that their proportions are significant. Their proportions are generally below 1.5% in the other regions.

The proportion of household heads belonging to the category of other religions (non-Moslems and non-Christians) is very small. There is no region in Cameroon where they constitute up to 2% of ordinary household heads. Though small, the proportion of free thinkers is higher than that of ordinary household heads belonging to other religions and orthodox. Their proportions are only significant in the West

(11.6%), Littoral (7.4%) and the South West (6.1%). In the other regions, their proportions lie below 3.5%.

2.2.6. Employment Situation of Ordinary Household Heads

The employment status of the ordinary household head is one of the key features that affect the living conditions of ordinary households. Like other characteristics of the household head, there exist many variations in the employment status of household heads between rural and urban areas as shown on table 2.7a

Table 2.7a % Distribution of Ordinary Household Heads by Employment Status

Employment Status of Household Head	% Distribution of Household Heads by Milieu		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Employed	62.6	74.4	68.2
search for employment	7.0	1.7	4.5
Housewife	4.2	1.7	3.0
Student	3.0	0.7	1.9
Renter	0.8	0.7	0.8
Retired	2.7	0.7	1.8
Aged	2.5	3.5	2.9
Disabled	0.9	1.6	1.2
Idler	9.7	12.6	11.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

68.2% of ordinary household heads in Cameroon were employed in 2005 with 74.4% of them employed in rural areas and only 62.6% employed in urban areas. 4.5% were in search of employment with 7% in urban areas and only 1.7% in rural areas. Women who were only housewives accounted for 3% of ordinary household heads with a higher proportion being found in urban (4.2%) than rural areas (1.7%). The ease of getting employment in agriculture and other activities of the primary sector in the rural areas may account for these differences. Students who are ordinary household heads represented 1.9% of ordinary household heads with the proportion found in rural areas (0.7%) being far smaller than that found in urban areas (3%). The distribution of school infrastructure especially university infrastructure in favour of urban areas largely accounts for this differential distribution of student ordinary household heads in favour of urban areas. The proportion of ordinary household heads that are renters is fairly evenly distributed between urban and rural areas (0.8 and 0.7%, respectively). Retired ordinary household heads constitute 1.8% of ordinary household heads with 2.7% in urban areas and only 0.7% in rural areas. Elderly household heads are found in a greater proportion in rural (3.5%) than urban areas (2.5%). The proportion of ordinary household heads who were not employed because of disabilities is higher in rural (1.6%) than urban areas

(0.9%). Ordinary household heads that were idlers were found in a greater proportion in rural (12.6%) than urban areas (9.7%).

The regional distribution of households by employment status also shows a lot of variations as shown on table 2.7b

Table 2.7 b % Regional Distribution of Ordinary Household Size by Heads' Employment Status

Employment status of household head	% Distribution of Household Heads by Region									
	Adamawa	Centre	East	Far North	Littoral	North	North West	West	South	South West
Employed	69.0	65.6	78.9	71.9	61.0	77.5	70.8	75.5	73.1	68.4
Search for employment	2.9	6.9	2.6	1.8	7.4	1.4	3.6	2.9	3.9	5.4
House wife	3.0	2.9	2.1	1.9	4.4	1.5	2.3	0.1	2.5	1.5
Student	2.6	2.8	1.5	0.7	0.9	0.7	2.5	0.1	3.1	3.1
Renter	0.1	0.9	0.4	0.5	1.0	0.3	1.1	0.8	0.5	1.0
Retired	0.6	2.7	0.9	0.4	3.0	0.6	1.4	5.0	2.3	1.8
Aged	2.8	2.2	1.6	2.7	2.8	1.4	3.6	2.2	3.3	1.8
Disabled	0.8	1.5	0.8	0.7	1.1	0.4	1.1	0.7	2.1	0.6
Idler	13.7	9.1	8.5	17.5	9.3	14.6	10.8	10.0	5.0	13.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

There is no region in Cameroon with less than 60% of household heads that are unemployed while some regions have very high employment proportions, others have moderate ones (table 2.7b). Regions which can be considered to host high proportions of employed household heads are those with proportions of between 70 and 80%. These regions are the East (78.9%), North (77.5%), West (75.5%), South (73.1%) and North West (70.8%). Regions whose ordinary household heads', South West (68.4%), Centre (65.6%) and littoral (61.0%).

Apart from the Littoral (7.4%), Centre (6.9%) and the South West (5.4%), the proportion of ordinary household heads that are in search of employment falls below 4% in other regions. The proportion of household heads who are housewives is low in most regions except for the Adamawa (3.0%) and the North (4.4%). The proportion of ordinary household heads who are students are only significant in the Adamawa (2.6%), Centre (2.8%), East (1.5%), North West (2.5%), South (3.1%) and South West (3.1%). For the other regions, this proportion is lower than 1%. The proportion of ordinary household heads who are renters is fairly uniformly distributed among the different regions of Cameroon with the highest (1.1%) in the North West Region and the lowest of 0.3% for the North Region.

With the exception of the Centre (2.7%), Littoral (3.0%), North West (1.4%), West (5.0%), South (2.3%) and South West (1.8%), the proportion of retired ordinary household heads is smaller than 1% in other regions.

The proportion of aged ordinary household heads that can not work because of their advanced ages is high in the West (3.6%) and the South (3.3%) and for the other regions, the proportion falls between 1.4 and 2.8%.

The proportion of ordinary household heads who can not work because of disability or disabilities goes above 1% for the South (2.1%), Centre (1.5%), Littoral (1.1%) and North West (1.1%) but for the other regions, it stands at below 1%.

CHAPTER III: ORDINARY HOUSEHOLD SIZE

3.1. DISTRIBUTION OF ORDINARY HOUSEHOLDS BY SIZE

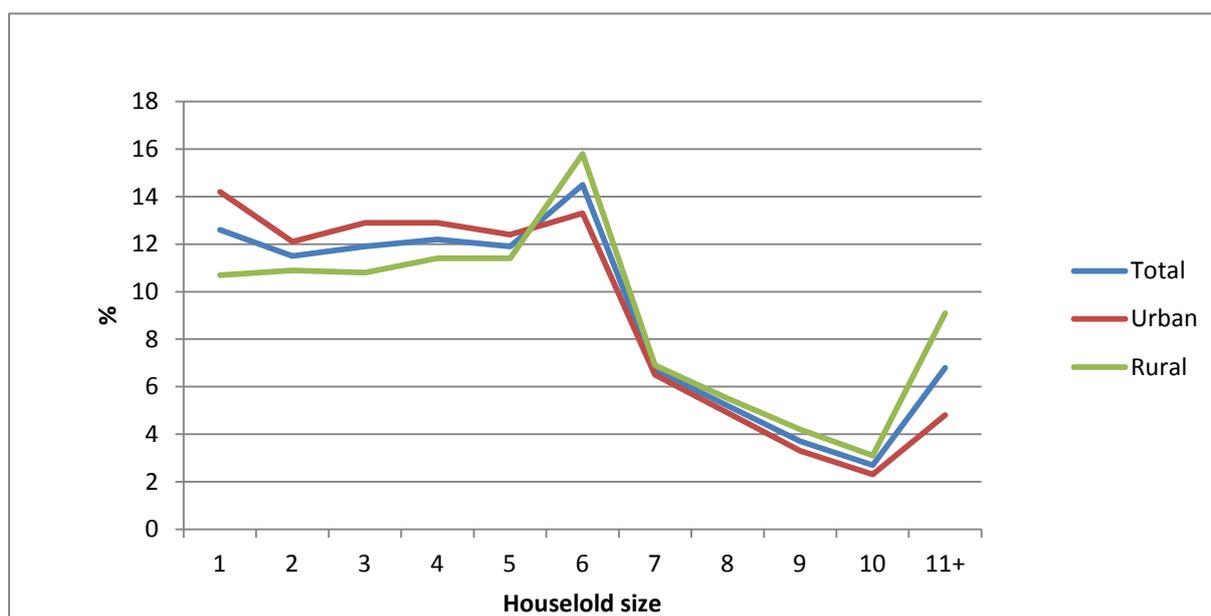
The household size of an ordinary household refers to the total number of persons who belong to it. There are households with sizes as small as one person and others with large sizes. The % distribution of households by size and by milieu of residence for Cameroon is shown on table 3.1a

Table 3.1a % Distribution of Ordinary Households by Size and Milieu of Residence

Milieu	Household Size											Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11+	
Urban	14.2	12.1	12.9	12.9	12.4	13.3	6.5	4.9	3.3	2.3	4.8	100.0
Rural	10.7	10.9	10.8	11.4	11.4	15.8	6.9	5.5	4.2	3.1	9.1	100.0
Total	12.6	11.5	11.9	12.2	11.9	14.5	6.7	5.2	3.7	2.7	6.8	100.0

The distribution of ordinary households by size shows many differences between rural and urban areas (table 3.1). This variation becomes clearly visible when represented graphically (figure 2).

Figure 3.1: % Distribution of Ordinary Households by Size and Milieu of Residence



There is a very unequal distribution of households made up of single persons between rural and urban areas. In urban areas, 14.2% of ordinary households are made up of single persons but in rural areas, this proportion is only 10.7%. This gives an average of 12.6%. The presence of large student populations especially university students and the single young persons of rural origins in urban areas may largely account for this difference.

The proportion of households with 1 to 5 persons in urban areas is 64.5% as against 55.2% for rural areas. On the contrary, the proportion of households with more than 5 persons is higher in rural (44.8%) than in urban areas (35.5%). The proportion of very large households, (households with more than 10 persons) is equally higher in rural (9.1%) than urban areas (4.8%).

Table 3.1b: % Regional Distribution of Ordinary Households by Sizes

Regions	% Distribution of Ordinary Households by Size											Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11+	
Adamawa	11.0	9.6	9.4	10.2	10.2	13.8	6.5	6.0	4.8	3.9	14.8	100
Centre	13.0	11.3	8.6	10.9	11.0	11.7	11.4	6.8	5.1	3.4	6.4	100
East	11.1	11.7	10.6	11.0	10.9	14.2	6.9	5.8	4.4	3.2	10.2	100
Far North	4.5	7.9	9.1	10.2	12.6	15.8	8.8	7.1	5.8	4.4	13.7	100
Littoral	12.2	9.9	18.7	14.5	14.3	14.6	5.7	4.0	2.3	1.4	2.1	100
North	7.7	9.2	10.0	10.7	11.0	13.6	7.9	6.7	5.2	4.0	14.0	100
North West	11.6	7.5	7.5	9.4	12.4	21.7	8.4	6.7	5.1	3.7	12.3	100
West	13.8	8.5	8.7	10.2	11.8	15.8	8.8	6.9	4.8	3.3	8.0	100
South	12.2	22.3	16.5	13.6	9.9	8.8	5.0	3.5	2.5	1.9	4.0	100
South West	14.9	12.2	10.9	12.4	11.7	7.3	5.7	4.0	2.9	2.2	5.7	100

The distribution of households by size and by regions shows wide variations. For the proportion of single person's ordinary households per region, it can be seen that it is as high as 14.9% in the South West Region and as low as only 4.5% in the Far North North Region (table 3.1b). Regions with high proportions of single person's ordinary households include the South West (14.9), West (13.8), Centre (13.0%), South (12.2%), Littoral (12.2%), North West (11.6%), Adamawa (11.1%) and East (11.1%). The proportion of single person ordinary households falls below 10% in the North and Far North Regions (table 3.1b).

There are regions with high proportions of small ordinary household sizes (1- 5 persons) and others with high proportions of large ordinary households (5 persons and above). In such regions, less than 50% of ordinary households are made up of small sizes (1 to 5 persons). These regions include: East (44.2%), Far North (44.3%), North West (48.4%) and North (48.5%). The other category registers between 50 and 60% of their households in this class. These are Adamawa (50.4%), West (53.0%) and Centre (54.8%). The last class contains a large proportion (60 to 75%) of their households in the small household size category. These regions are: - South West (62.1%), Littoral (69.6%) and South (74.5%).

An examination of the proportion of very large ordinary households, households with 11 persons and more shows that 5 out of the 10 regions of Cameroon have more than 10% of their ordinary households in this category. These regions are: - Adamawa (14.8%), North (14.0), Far North (13.7%), North West (12.3%) and East (10.2%) while the other regions have less than 10% of their households in this category with the lowest being the Littoral with 2.1%.

3.2. AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE

The average household size refers to the ratio between the total population that resides within ordinary households and the total number of ordinary households. The average household size in rural and urban areas of the country is shown on table 3.2a

Table 3.2a Average House Size by Milieu of Residence

Milieu	Average household Size
Urban	4.8
Rural	5.5
Total	5.1

The average household size for the whole country is 5.1. The average ordinary household size in rural areas (5.5) is significantly higher than that for urban areas (4.8), (table 3.2a). Differences in fertility behaviour and coresidence rules may partly account for these differences. Apart from rural/urban differences in average ordinary household sizes, regional variations also exist.

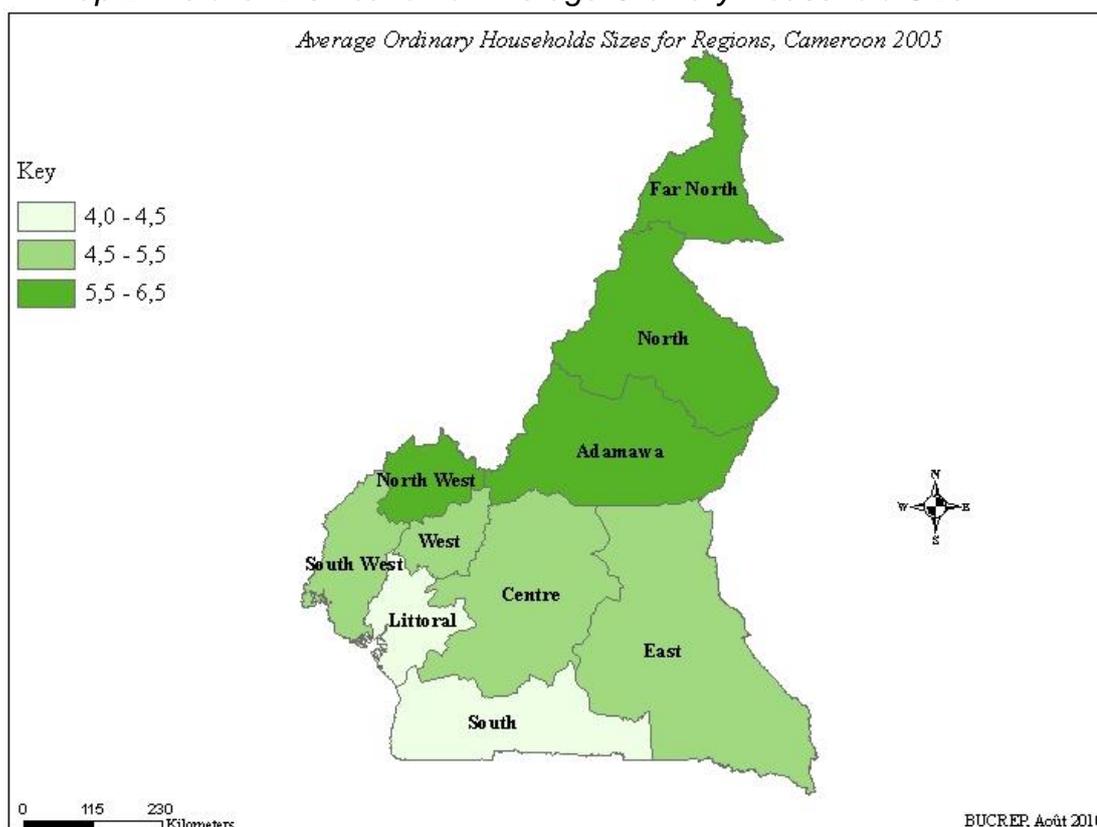
Table 3.2b Regional Distribution of Average Ordinary Household Sizes

Region	Average Household Size
Adamawa	5.8
Centre	4.8
East	5.2
Far North	6.2
Littoral	4.3
North	6.0
North West	5.6
West	4.9
South	4.1
South West	4.6

The ten regions of Cameroon can be divided into classes in terms of average ordinary household sizes. The first category is made up of regions whose average ordinary household sizes stand above the national average of 5.1. This category includes the Far North (6.2), North (6.0), Adamawa (5.8) and East (5.2). The second class of regions is made up of regions with average ordinary household sizes that are lower than the national average of 5.1. Included in this group are the West (4.9), Centre (4.8), South West (4.6), littoral (4.3) and South (4.1). Many reasons may account for these regional variations in average household sizes and these include regional variations in fertility, university student population, co-residence rules, etc.

The regional variation in average ordinary household sizes is presented on Map1

Map 2: Reional Distribution of Average Ordinary Household Size.



3.3. EVOLUTION OF AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE 1987-2005

The average ordinary household size is not always static. It is likely to change in response to social, economic and cultural changes. The evolution of average ordinary household sizes for both rural and urban areas between 1987 when the Second General Population and Housing Census was carried out and the time of the third in 2005 is shown on table 3.3

Table 3.3 Changes in Rural and Urban Average Ordinary Household Sizes, 1987-2005

Milieu	Year		Difference 2005-1987
	1987	2005	
Urban	5.0	4.8	-0.3
Rural	5.3	5.5	+0.2
Total	5.2	5.1	-0.1

The national average ordinary household size only changed little between the two censuses. It only declined slightly from 5.2 in 1987 to 5.1 in 2005, a reduction of -0.1. While it reduced from 5.0 to 4.7 in urban areas, in rural areas, it instead increased from 5.3 to 5.5. It can be hoped that with increased urbanization, overall ordinary average household size could reduce.

3.4. SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF ORDINARY HOUSEHOLD HEADS AND AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZES

3.4.1. Sex of Ordinary Household Heads and Average Household Sizes

The average household size is influenced by many characteristics of the household including the sex. Table 3.4b shows the distribution of average household sizes in rural and urban areas by sex of ordinary household heads.

Table 3.4a Average Ordinary Household Size by Sex of Household Head

Milieu of Residence	Average Household Size by Sex of Head		Difference (Male Average Household Size- Female Average Household Size)
	Male	Femal	
Urban	5.0	4.1	+0.9
Rural	5.9	4.0	+1.9
Total	5.4	4.1	+1.3

The average ordinary household size for households headed by males is larger than that of females in both rural and urban areas. The overall ordinary household size for male headed households is 5.4 while it is only 4.1 for female headed households giving a difference of 1.3. The difference in average size between male and female headed ordinary households is greater in urban than rural areas (table 3.4a). While this difference is only 0.9 in urban areas, it is 1.9 in rural areas. This variation is likely to be noticed at the regional level.

Table 3.4b Regional Distribution of Average Household Size for Male and Female Headed Households

Region	Average Household Size by Sex of Head		Difference (Male Average Household Size-Female Average Household Size)
	Male	Femal	
Adamawa	6.1	4.2	1.9
Centre	4.9	4.2	0.7
East	5.4	4.5	0.9
Far North	6.6	3.7	2.9
Littoral	4.5	3.9	0.6
North	6.2	3.6	2.6
North West	6.0	4.7	2.3
West	5.5	3.8	1.7
South	4.2	3.8	0.6
South West	4.8	4.1	0.7

In all regions of Cameroon, the average ordinary household size for male headed households is greater than that for ordinary households headed by females (table 3.4b). The difference in size between male and female headed ordinary households shows important regional variations. Three regions- the Far

North, North, and North West have a difference in average size between male and female headed households of more than two (2). Two regions –Adamawa and West have differences of between 1 and 2. The regions where the differences in average household sizes between male and female headed households are quite close (less than 1 person) are East , Centre , South West , littoral and South regions.

3.4.2. Age of Ordinary Household Head and Average Household Size

The sex of the ordinary household head has been shown to influence the average household size. Here, attention is being paid on the influence of the household head’s age on the average household size.

Table 3.5a Age of Household Head by Average Household Size and Milieu of Residence

Age of Ordinary Household Head	Average Household Size by Milieu of Residence		Both Milieux
	Urban	Rural	
10-19	2.3	2.8	2.5
20-29	2.9	4.1	3.4
30-39	4.5	5.6	5.0
40-49	5.8	6.4	6.1
50-59	6.2	6.3	6.3
60-69	5.9	5.6	5.7
70-79	5.4	4.9	5.1
80-89	4.9	4.5	4.6
90+	4.3	4.1	4.2

The overall average ordinary household size increases with the age of the ordinary household head. It increases from 2.5 for the age group 10 to 19 years to attain a maximum of 6.3 for the age group 50 to 59 before declining to reach 4.2 for the age group 90+. For the rural milieu, it increases from 2.8 for the age group 10 to 19 reaching a maximum of 6.4 for the age brackets 40-49 before declining with age of ordinary household head to attain 4.1 for the age group 90+. For the urban milieu, it starts at a minimum of 2.3 for the age group 10-19 to reach a maximum of 6.2 for the age brackets 50-59 before declining to attain 4.3 for the age group 90+ (table 3.5a).

Table 3.5b Distribution of Average Household Size by Regions and Age of Ordinary Household Head

Age of Ordinary Household Head	Average Household Size by Region									
	Adamawa	Centre	East	Far North	littoral	North	North West	West	South	South West
10-19	2.2	2.2	2.5	3.3	2.2	2.9	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.3
20-29	3.4	3.0	3.9	4.5	2.8	4.2	3.5	3.1	3.2	2.9
30-39	5.5	4.6	5.3	6.2	4.1	5.9	5.4	5.1	4.3	4.4
40-49	7.2	5.8	6.4	7.4	5.1	7.2	6.3	5.8	5.0	5.5
50-59	7.8	6.1	6.2	7.3	5.3	7.3	6.6	5.7	4.8	6.0
60-69	7.4	5.5	5.6	6.4	4.8	6.5	6.4	4.9	4.2	6.0
70-79	6.5	4.7	4.7	5.4	4.4	5.5	6.2	4.4	3.8	5.9
80-89	5.6	4.1	4.1	4.6	4.1	4.6	6	4.1	3.4	6.0
90+	4.6	3.9	4.4	4.0	3.6	3.7	5.6	3.6	3.1	6.2

For four regions, average ordinary household size increases with age of ordinary household head to attain a maximum at 40-49 years before declining with age. These regions are the East, Far North, West and South. For the Adamawa, Centre, Littoral, North, North West and South West regions, the average ordinary household sizes increase with age to attain maximum values at the age brackets 50-59 before declining with age. In general, average ordinary household size increases with age of ordinary household head to attain maximum values at either 40-49 or 50-59 years. In the Far North, North and Adamawa regions, the increase of ordinary household size with the ages of the household head is more rapid than in other regions. This may be associated with early marriages and high fertility.

3.4.3. Educational Levels of Ordinary Household Head and Average Household Sizes

The educational level of the ordinary household head is one of the characteristics that influence average ordinary household size. Higher educational levels of ordinary household heads are often associated with smaller average ordinary household sizes.

Table 3.6a: Average Household Size by Educational Level of Household Head

Educational of Ordinary Household Heads	Average household by Milieu of Residence		Both Milieux
	Urban	Rural	
Non	5.2	5.7	5.6
Primary	5.1	5.6	5.3
Secondary	4.6	5.2	4.7
Higher	4.2	4.5	4.2
Total	5.0	5.5	5.1

There is an inverse relationship between the average ordinary household size and the educational level of the head (table 3.6a). When both urban and rural milieux are considered, the average ordinary household size varies from 5.6 for households headed by persons with no education through 5.3 for those headed by heads with primary education, to 4.7 for those headed by heads with secondary education to attain a minimum of 4.2 for households headed by persons with higher educational levels. This trend is repeated when urban and rural areas are taken independently. The difference in ordinary average household size between households headed by persons with no education and those with primary education is very small and significant differences start emerging only after primary education.

Table 3.6b Regional Distribution of Ordinary Average Household Size by Educational Level of Household Head

Educational of Ordinary Household Heads	Average household by Milieu of Region									
	Adamawa	Centre	East	Far North	Littoral	North	North West	West	South	South West
Non	6.0	4.4	5.0	6.1	4.1	6.0	5.9	4.4	3.5	5.3
Primary	6.1	5.1	5.3	6.5	4.6	6.2	5.8	5.3	4.2	4.9
Secondary	5.3	4.8	5.4	6.1	4.3	5.7	4.9	5.2	4.2	4.2
Higher	4.7	4.2	4.7	5.1	4.1	4.8	4.6	4.0	3.9	3.7
Total	5.8	4.8	5.2	6.2	4.3	6.0	5.6	4.9	4.1	4.6

When the same educational levels are considered, average ordinary household size is higher in the Far North, Adamawa, North and East regions than other regions (table 3.6b). Even though the general tendency is for the average household size to reduce with educational levels of the ordinary household heads, the average household sizes of households headed by persons with no education are smaller than those headed by persons with primary education in the Adamawa, Centre, East, Far North, Littoral, North, West and South West. Average ordinary household size only reduces with increase in the educational levels of the ordinary household head in all regions after primary education.

3.4.4. Religious Affiliation of ordinary Household Head and Average Household Size

The religious affiliation of ordinary household heads together with other characteristics may influence the average size of ordinary households. The variation of average ordinary household size with the religious affiliation of the head is presented on table 3.7.

Table 3.7a Religious Affiliations of Ordinary Household Heads by Average Household Size'

Religious Head Affiliation of Household	Average Ordinary Household Size by Milieu		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Catholic	4.7	5.2	4.9
Orthodox	4.4	5.2	4.7
Protestant	4.7	5.3	5.0
Other Christians	4.5	5.1	4.7
Moslem	5.4	6.2	5.8
Traditional African	4.9	6.1	6.0
Other Religions	4.5	5.3	4.8
Free thinker	4.1	5.1	4.6
Total	4.7	5.5	5.1

At the national level, the largest average ordinary household size belongs to ordinary households headed by animist (traditionalist) whose average household size is 6.0. They are followed by Moslems (5.8) and Protestants (5.0). The average

ordinary household sizes for ordinary households headed by Catholics, Orthodox, Other Christian affiliations, free thinkers and other religions are very similar, ranging from 4.6 to 4.8. In the rural milieu the largest average ordinary household size belong to households headed by Moslem (6.2), followed by those headed by animists (6.1). The average ordinary household size for households headed by Protestants, Catholics, Free thinkers, Other Religious affiliates and other Christians are very close, ranging from 5.1 to 5.3. In the urban milieu, the largest average ordinary household sizes belong to households headed by Moslems (5.4) and those headed by animists (traditionalists), (4.9). The lowest average household size belongs to households headed by Free thinkers (4.1) (table 3.7a). The high average ordinary household size for Moslem headed households can be attributed to the high rate of polygamy and fertility that characterise these households.

Table 3.7b Regional Distribution of Ordinary Household Heads by Religious Affiliations and Average Ordinary Household Sizes

Religious Head Affiliation of Household	Average Ordinary Household Size by Region									
	Adamawa	Centre	East	Far North	Littoral	North	North West	West	South	South West
Catholic	4.6	4.9	5.2	5.9	4.4	5.7	5.4	4.7	4.1	4.7
Orthodox	4.5	4.5	5.1	6.0	4.1	5.4	5.2	4.4	4.2	4.6
Protestant	5.2	4.7	5.2	6.2	4.4	5.8	5.6	4.7	4.2	4.6
Other Christians	5.1	4.7	5.5	6.0	4.3	5.7	5.6	4.5	4.2	4.5
Moslems	6.3	4.3	5.2	6.3	3.9	6.1	6.0	5.8	3.3	4.1
Animists	4.3	4.4	5.3	6.3	4.2	6.3	7.2	4.9	3.7	7.3
Other Religions	5.1	4.7	5.4	5.9	4.3	6.1	5.5	4.7	4.2	4.3
Free thinkers	4.0	4.0	4.9	5.9	3.9	6.2	5.3	4.7	3.7	4.1
Total	5.8	4.8	5.2	6.2	4.3	6.0	5.6	4.9	4.1	4.6

The average ordinary household sizes for households headed by Moslems are the highest among household heads of all religious groups in three regions – Adamawa (6.3), Far North (6.3) and West (5.8). In the East (5.2) North West (6.0) and North regions (6.1), it features among the highest. In other regions on the contrary, the average ordinary household sizes for Moslem headed households are quite modest with 4.3 for the Centre, 3.9 for the Littoral, 3.3 for the South and 4.1 for the South West regions.

The average ordinary household sizes for households headed by Catholics show little regional variation when compared to Moslem headed households. The lowest average ordinary household size for Catholic headed household is registered in the South (4.1) and the highest in the Far North (5.9). Apart from these two extremes, others are fairly similar.

Among ordinary households headed by Protestants, the highest average size is found in the Far North region (6.2) and the lowest in the South (4.2). Apart from these extreme values, the others are very alike.

The highest average ordinary household size for households headed by household heads belonging to other Christian faiths is registered in the Far North region (6.0) and the lowest (4.2) in the South region. The average ordinary household sizes for households headed by Protestants in other regions are quite similar.

The average ordinary household sizes for households headed by Orthodox Christians are fairly uniform. The highest average size is registered in the Far North (6.0) and lowest in the South (4.2).

The average ordinary household sizes for households headed by animists (traditionalists) register the highest values in the country in the South West (7.3), North West (7.2) and the lowest value, 3.7 in the South region.

Average ordinary household sizes for households headed by persons belonging to other religious faiths register their highest values in the North region (6.1) and the lowest in the Far North (5.9). The lowest values are registered in the Littoral (4.3) and South (4.2).

The highest average ordinary household sizes for ordinary households headed by free thinkers is registered in the North (6.2) and Far North (5.9) while the lowest values are registered in the south (3.7) and Littoral (3.9).

Average ordinary household sizes for households headed by persons of the same religion vary significantly between regions. This brings to focus the fact that average ordinary household size is not determined by the religious affiliation of the head only.

3.4.5. Marital Status of Ordinary Household Head and Average Household Size

Among the various characteristics of ordinary household heads that can significantly influence the average sizes of their households, is their marital status. The distribution of average ordinary household sizes by marital status of household heads is shown on table 3.8a

Table 3.8a Distribution of Ordinary Household Heads by Marital Status and Average Household Size

Marital Status of Ordinary Household Heads	Average Household Size by Milieu of Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Single	2.7	3.1	2.9
Monogamous	5.6	5.5	5.5
Polygamous	8.6	9.0	8.9
Cohabiting	4.3	4.8	4.5
Separated	3.9	3.5	3.6
Divorced	3.7	3.3	3.5
Widowed	4.7	3.7	4.4
Total	4.7	5.5	5.1

The average household size for unmarried (single) household heads is the smallest in both urban and rural areas. It is only 2.9 and is higher in rural (3.1) than urban areas (2.7). Ordinary households headed by divorced persons are also small. Their average size is 3.5 with 3.7 for urban areas and 3.3 for rural areas. The average household size for ordinary households headed by separated persons is equally small (3.6) with 3.9 for urban areas and 3.5 for rural areas. The average household size for households headed by persons who are cohabiting (4.5) and those headed by widowed persons (4.4) also fall below the average size of 5.1

Household heads in monogamous or polygamous unions head households with average sizes that are above the national average of 5.1. These are polygamous unions (8.9) and monogamous unions (5.5)

Table 3.8b Marital Status of Ordinary Households by Average Household by Regions

Marital Status of Ordinary Household Heads	Average Ordinary Household Size by Region of Residence									
	Adamawa	Centre	East	Far North	Littoral	North	North West	West	South	South West
Single	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.6	2.7	3.1	3.5	2.4	2.7	2.6
Monogamous	5.4	5.7	5.9	5.8	5.1	5.5	6.0	5.4	4.8	5.3
Polygamous	11.2	7.4	9.7	10.3	6.5	10.2	8.5	7.2	6.4	8.9
Cohabiting	4.2	4.5	5.0	5.8	4.1	6.4	5.1	4.7	4.1	3.9
Separated	3.9	4.3	3.9	3.4	3.7	3.1	4.3	3.3	3.4	4.0
Divorced	3.9	4.2	3.9	3.1	3.5	2.8	4.2	3.1	3.3	4.1
Widowed	5.2	5.4	4.5	3.5	4.3	3.5	4.7	3.6	3.8	4.6
Total	5.8	4.6	5.2	6.2	4.3	6.0	5.6	4.9	4.1	4.6

The average ordinary household size for households headed by single (unmarried) persons is the smallest in all the ten regions. This size is higher in the Far North (3.6), North West (3.5) and the North (3.1) than in other regions.

The average household sizes for ordinary households headed by persons in monogamous unions in all the ten regions attain a maximum value of 6.0 for the North West and the lowest value of 4.1 for the South region. The average household sizes for ordinary households headed by persons living in polygamous unions show fairly wide variations among the different regions. It is as high as 11.2 in the Adamawa region and as low as 6.4 for the South. The average household sizes for ordinary households headed by persons living in polygamous unions are higher in the Adamawa (11.2), Far North (10.3), North (10.2) and the East regions (10.2) than in other regions.

The average household size for ordinary households headed by persons who are cohabitating is small in all the ten regions but it is higher in the Far North (5.8) than in other regions. The lowest value is registered in the South West region (4.1).

Average ordinary household sizes for households headed by persons who are separated are fairly constant among all the regions. The lowest value is registered in the North region (3.1) and the highest value of 4.3 is registered in the Centre region.

Average ordinary household size for households headed by divorced persons is lower than the national average household size in all regions. The lowest value is registered in the West and Far North (3.1) and the highest in the North West (4.2).

The largest average ordinary household size for households headed by widowed persons is highest in the Centre (5.4) and Adamawa (5.2) and lowest in the North and Far North regions (3.5 each).

3.4.6. Employment Status of ordinary Households and Average Household Sizes

The employment status of ordinary households often govern their ability to sustain a household. A person who is employed is often more able than the unemployed one to head and provide for the basic needs of the household. This is where the study of the relationship between household heads' employment status and the average household sizes of their households finds their importance.

Table 3.9a Households' Employment Status by Average Household Size and Milieu of Residence

Employment Status of Household Head	Average Household Size by Milieu		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Employed	5.8	6.2	6.0
In search for employment	4.4	4.7	4.4
Housewife	3.4	3.6	3.5
Student	1.8	2.0	1.9
Renter	5.0	5.8	5.5
Retired	4.5	5.6	5.2
Aged	4.0	4.4	4.2
Disabled	3.6	4.3	3.8
idler	2.9	5.4	3.4
Total	4.7	5.5	5.1

When the employment status of household heads and their average household sizes are considered, two distinct groups can be derived. The first category is that of household heads with employment status that have average household sizes that are higher than the national average of 5.1. These are the employed (6.0), renters (5.5) and the retired (5.2). The second group is made up of household heads who head ordinary households with average sizes below the national average. These are household heads that are students, idlers, housewives, applicants or aged. In both rural and urban areas, these trends are identical except for the fact that for most household heads of the same employment status, the average household size in rural areas is higher than that in the urban milieu (table 3.9a)

Table 3.9b Households' Employment Status by Average Household Size and Region of Residence

Employment Status of Household Head	Average Household Size by Region									
	Adamawa	Centre	East	F. North	Littoral	North	N.West	West	S. West	South
Employed	7.0	5.5	6.3	7.3	5.0	7.1	6.5	6.3	4.8	5.4
In search for employment	5.0	4.3	4.8	5.8	3.4	5.1	4.5	4.4	3.6	3.8
Housewife	5.0	4.0	4.8	5.1	3.3	5.0	4.8	4.6	3.0	3.8
Student	2.3	1.4	2.2	2.4	1.2	2.3	1.8	1.7	1.3	1.9
Renter	6.4	5.0	6.3	6.8	4.9	6.5	6.0	5.8	4.6	5.1
Retired	5.8	4.8	5.4	5.9	4.3	5.8	5.5	5.2	4.5	4.6
Aged	5.4	4.4	5.1	5.5	3.9	5.6	5.2	5.0	4.4	4.5
Disabled	4.4	3.3	3.8	4.6	3.0	4.5	3.9	4.0	3.0	3.3
idler	4.0	3.8	3.4	4.1	3.4	4.0	3.8	3.9	2.8	3.0
Total	5.8	4.8	5.2	6.2	4.1	6.0	5.6	4.9	4.1	4.6

In all regions of the country, the highest average household sizes belong to households headed by persons who are employed and the average household sizes of these households are higher than the regional averages. For almost all employment status of ordinary household heads, household sizes in the Far North, North and Adamawa regions are higher than for other regions. The South and Littoral regions, register the lowest average household sizes for household heads with their employment status (table 3.9b).

CHAPTER IV: HOUSEHOLD TYPES AND ORDINARY HOUSEHOLD STRUCTURES

This chapter examines the distribution of the population of Cameroon by type of household, the distribution of ordinary household structures and household age composition by rural/urban and regional differences and by some socio-demographic features of ordinary household heads such as sex, level of education, employment status, etc.

4.1. DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY TYPE OF HOUSEHOLDS

Cameroon like many other countries counts many types of household types. There is what is commonly known as the ordinary or private household which in all situations, hosts a large part of the resident population of any country and a variety of other household types such as collective households (prisons, hospitals, military camps, old persons' homes, orphanages, religious convents, refugee camps, dormitories, etc.), nomads' households and homes for the apparently homeless.

Table 4.1 % Distribution of the Population of Cameroon by Type of Household

Type of Household	% Distribution of Population by Sex			Sex Ratio
	Males	Females	Total	
Ordinary Household	99,29	99,65	99,47	99,6
Other Collective Households	0,15	0,06	0,10	234,0
Dormitory	0,23	0,18	0,20	128,0
Hotel	0,01	0,00	0,00	309,8
Prison	0,18	0,01	0,09	2130,9
Hospital	0,01	0,01	0,01	88,6
Religious Institution	0,09	0,03	0,06	321,3
Military Camp	0,02	0,00	0,01	655,8
Orphanage	0,01	0,01	0,01	156,6
Refugee Camp	0,00	0,00	0,00	141,7
Old Persons' Home	0,00	0,00	0,00	281,9
Nomad Household	0,00	0,04	0,02	10,0
Homeless	0,02	0,00	0,01	2020,3
Total	100,00	100,00	100,00	97,7

The household type that hosts the largest proportion of the resident population in both rural and urban areas is the ordinary household .Ordinary households alone host 99.47% of the total population. Coming in second position are dormitories. Though dormitories come in second position, the proportion of the total population which they host (0.20%) is small when compared to the proportion of the population that resides in ordinary households. The sex ratio that is the average number of males for every 100 females, for person's living in dormitories (128) is in favour of males. The proportion of the resident population that is resident in other forms of

collective households is very small. The sex ratio for populations that live in collective households is largely in favour of males except for hospitals. The high proportion of male /female residents of collective households is very evident in military camps where the sex ratio is 655.8 and prisons with 2130.8. Another household type with a very high sex ratio is the household for the apparently homeless where the sex ratio is 2020.3. The sex ratio of 10 for nomad households is unexpected. It may have come about as a result of the difficulty of counting nomad men.

4.2. SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLD STRUCTURES

Household structure refers to the classification of ordinary households based on relationships with the household head or the spouse. Based on this classification, various forms or structures can be identified such as single person's households, simple monogamous households, single parent's households, various forms of polygamous households, etc.

Table 4.2a Distribution of Household Structures by Milieux

Structure of Household	% Distribution by Milieu		
	Urban	Rural	Total
Single Person	14,2	10,7	12,5
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	30,0	37,2	33,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,5	7,1	4,2
Enlarged Nuclear Family	13,9	12,4	13,2
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,9	3,0	1,9
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	6,1	3,7	4,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,4	1,0	0,7
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,1	1,7	1,9
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,7	0,4
Simple Single Parent	9,2	9,3	9,2
Enlarged Single Parent	12,6	8,1	10,5
Extended Single Parent	5,9	3,7	4,8
Composite Single Parent	3,0	1,6	2,3

The various forms of ordinary household structures are very unevenly distributed between urban and rural areas. Single person's ordinary households which make up 12.5% of ordinary households in Cameroon are found in a greater proportion in urban (14.2%) than rural areas (10.7%). Monogamous households form a majority of ordinary household structures in Cameroon and are found in a greater proportion in the rural than the urban milieu. Various forms of polygamous households are found in a greater proportion in rural than urban areas. Single parent's households form a greater proportion of urban than rural households (table 4.2a).

Apart from the rural/urban variation in the distribution of different structures of ordinary households, regional variations exist. The regional variation of ordinary household structures is shown on table 4.2b

Table 4.2b % Distribution of Household Structures by Regions

Household Structure	% Regional Distribution									
	Adamawa	Centre	East	F.North	Littoral	North	N.West	West	South	S.West
Single Person	12,6	15,1	12,3	7,1	13,3	9,9	11,2	15,2	13,0	15,1
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	36,7	27,4	38,2	44,3	33,3	41,1	29,4	26,4	31,0	30,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	9,2	0,8	4,6	10,9	0,6	11,6	2,5	3,9	0,8	1,4
Enlarged Nuclear Family	12,3	15,4	14,2	11,4	14,8	11,7	13,1	10,6	12,2	13,0
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	4,3	0,7	1,9	3,8	0,4	4,9	1,6	2,2	0,6	0,8
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	3,7	7,7	5,5	3,0	5,8	2,9	4,2	4,2	6,0	3,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,5	0,3	0,7	1,1	0,2	1,4	0,5	0,9	0,5	0,3
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,4	2,3	1,5	1,5	1,7	2,3	1,9	1,2	2,2	2,1
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,4	0,1	0,3	0,8	0,1	1,6	0,2	0,3	0,2	0,1
Simple Single Parent	5,1	7,8	7,1	7,9	9,5	5,2	15,0	13,4	8,8	10,9
Enlarged Single Parent	6,7	13,4	8,9	4,8	12,7	4,4	11,5	13,2	14,7	11,6
Extended Single Parent	2,4	6,0	3,5	2,0	5,3	1,5	6,6	6,2	6,6	6,8
Composite Single Parent	1,9	3,0	1,4	1,3	2,6	1,4	2,2	2,1	3,3	3,8

The various ordinary household structures are very unevenly distributed among the ten regions of Cameroon (table 4.2b). Taking single person's ordinary households into consideration; they make up slightly more than 15% of the total number of ordinary households in three regions: South West (15.1%), West (15.2%) and Centre (15.1%). This type of ordinary household structure makes up between 10 and 15% of ordinary households in Adamawa, East, Littoral, and North West and South regions. For the Far North and North regions, single person's ordinary households make up less than 10% of ordinary households. High proportions of single person's ordinary households are associated to regions with high student populations especially university student population. Polygamous households are more represented in the Adamawa, North, and Far North and to some extent the North West and West regions than other regions of Cameroon. The proportion of monogamous households is higher in the Far North, North and Adamawa regions

than other regions. Single parent households are very unevenly distributed among the various regions of Cameroon. They make up important proportions of ordinary households in the North West (35.4%), West (35.0%), South (33.5%), South West (33.1%), Centre (30.2%) and Littoral (30%). In other regions, their proportions are relatively small with 12% for the North, 16% for the Far North, 16.1% for the Adamawa and 20.9% for the East.

4.3. CHARACTERISTICS OF HOUSEHOLD HEADS AND HOUSEHOLD STRUCTURES

The ordinary household structure like other features can be influenced by characteristics of the household heads such as sex, educational level, employment status, age, etc.

4.3.1. Sex of Household heads and Household Structures

The analysis of the influence of the ordinary household heads' sex on average household size carried in this study revealed that the average household size of female headed households are smaller than those of households headed by males. The sex of the household head is very likely to influence household structure. The distribution of ordinary household structures by sex of their household heads for both rural and urban areas is shown on table 4.3.

Table 4.3 Ordinary Household Structure by Sex of Household Head

Household Structure	% of Household by Sex and Household Structure					
	Urban		Rural		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Single Person	13,6	16,3	8,5	18,9	11,1	17,4
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	39,4	1,4	46,5	1,9	42,8	1,7
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	2,1	0,0	9,0	0,0	5,5	0,0
Enlarged Nuclear Family	18,2	0,7	15,5	0,8	16,8	0,7
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,2	0,0	3,8	0,0	2,5	0,0
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	8,0	0,3	4,6	0,2	6,3	0,3
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,5	0,0	1,2	0,0	0,8	0,0
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,7	0,1	2,1	0,2	2,4	0,1
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,3	0,0	0,8	0,0	0,6	0,0
Simple Single Parent	2,4	29,8	2,5	35,0	2,5	32,0
Enlarged Single Parent	7,2	29,3	3,4	25,9	5,3	27,8
Extended Single Parent	2,5	16,2	1,2	12,9	1,8	14,8
Composite Single Parent	2,1	5,8	0,9	4,2	1,5	5,1
TOTAL	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Significant differences exist in the structures of households headed by males and those headed by females. Female headed households are either single person or single parent households. On average, 17.4% of female headed households are

single person's households as against 11.1% for those headed by males. 79.7% of ordinary households headed by females are single parent's households against 11.1% for males. The high proportion of women as heads of single parent households can be attributed to many reasons- the fact that women usually become ordinary household heads in the absence of adult males and the fact that women who have children outside marriage are usually allowed to take care of children.

The proportion of males that head more complex household structures is significantly higher than for females. For example, 48.7% of male ordinary household heads head simple monogamous households while only 1.7% of female household heads head such households. The proportion of women who head various forms of polygamous ordinary households is very significant when compared to that of households headed by males.

The dominance of women as heads of single person's households is more important in rural than urban areas. In rural areas, 18.9% of female household heads head single person's households as against 8.5% for males. In urban areas, these proportions are 16.3% and 13.6% respectively. On the contrary, the proportion of women who head single parent households is more important in urban (81.1%) than in rural areas (77.0%). The proportion of males that head single parent households is far smaller than that of females in both rural and urban milieu. It is 14.2% for urban and 8.0% for rural areas.

In all regions of the country, the proportion of women that head single parent's households is significantly higher than that of males. Apart from the Centre region, the proportion of women who head single person's households is higher than that of males. The highest proportion of women that head single person's households is registered in the North (28.4%), and the lowest in the Centre (6.3%), (annexes 2a, 2b, 2c).

4.3.2 Ordinary Household Structures and Sex of Household Heads

The age of an individual is largely linked to the ability to lead a household and the structures of household that is headed. It is for this reason that an analysis of the distribution of household structures with that of the age of household heads is important.

Table 4.4a Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (Urban Areas))

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									TOTAL
	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	
Single Person	36,9	29,3	11,6	6,7	6,5	9,6	13,8	17,5	24,3	14,2
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,2	23,9	35,9	34,8	30,3	22,9	18,5	17,8	16,7	29,9
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,3	1,0	2,0	2,8	3,3	3,6	3,3	2,6	1,5
Enlarged Nuclear Family	1,0	9,0	16,8	15,2	14,8	14,7	14,4	13,8	10,7	13,8
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,1	0,5	1,0	1,6	2,4	3,1	3,1	2,4	0,9
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	0,3	2,7	6,6	7,8	7,7	7,4	6,1	5,4	4,4	6,0
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,2	0,4	0,8	1,0	1,3	1,3	0,6	0,4
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,9	2,2	2,7	2,7	2,6	2,3	2,1	1,7	2,1
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,2	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,6	0,2
Simple Single Parent	3,7	5,5	9,3	12,4	11,1	8,8	7,1	6,3	6,8	9,2
Enlarged Single Parent	32,1	18,2	9,4	9,0	11,3	14,3	15,6	16,0	16,8	12,6
Extended Single Parent	8,7	5,5	4,2	5,5	7,3	9,4	10,1	9,4	9,2	5,9
Composite Single Parent	8,8	4,6	2,2	2,2	2,7	3,1	3,4	3,2	3,2	3,0
Others	5,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
Total	2,8	21,3	29,1	23,1	13,4	6,7	2,8	0,7	0,2	100,0

Table 4.4b Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (Rural Areas))

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									total
	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	
Single Person	28,4	12,9	7,4	7,3	9,3	13,1	17,3	20,2	24,3	10,7
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	21,1	46,7	45,4	38,5	31,9	26,3	23,9	23,0	22,25	37,0
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,9	3,9	7,0	8,6	8,9	7,8	7,0	6,8	6,293	7,1
Enlarged Nuclear Family	5,1	12,8	12,9	11,6	12,3	12,8	12,6	12,0	11,28	12,3
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,2	1,3	2,4	3,1	4,0	4,3	4,3	4,3	4,078	3,0
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	1,2	3,2	3,8	3,8	3,8	4,0	4,0	3,9	3,436	3,7
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,4	0,7	1,0	1,3	1,5	1,5	1,5	1,293	1,0
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,5	1,4	1,8	1,8	1,7	1,7	1,5	1,4	1,266	1,7
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,2	0,5	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,8	0,651	0,7
Simple Single Parent	7,5	6,7	10,2	12,5	10,2	7,7	6,0	5,6	6,121	9,3
Enlarged Single Parent	18,7	6,4	4,6	6,7	9,6	12,3	12,9	12,7	11,9	8,1
Extended Single Parent	6,9	2,3	2,1	3,1	4,5	5,9	6,2	6,0	5,479	3,7
Composite Single Parent	5,0	1,7	1,2	1,3	1,5	1,8	1,9	1,9	1,646	1,6
Others	4,4	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0	0,1
Total	1,6	17,5	39,2	43,6	36,7	28,8	19,7	9,3	2,9	100,0

Table 4.4c: Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (Both Milieux)

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									Total
	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	
Single Person	34,0	22,6	9,9	6,9	7,9	11,8	16,2	19,5	24,3	12,6
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	9,4	33,2	39,9	36,5	31,1	25,0	22,2	21,6	21,0	33,3
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,3	1,8	3,5	4,9	6,0	6,1	6,0	5,8	5,5	4,2
Enlarged Nuclear Family	2,4	10,6	15,2	13,6	13,5	13,5	13,1	12,5	11,2	13,1
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,6	1,3	1,9	2,9	3,6	3,9	4,0	3,7	1,9
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	0,6	2,9	5,5	6,0	5,7	5,2	4,6	4,3	3,7	4,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,2	0,4	0,7	1,0	1,3	1,5	1,5	1,2	0,7
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,3	1,1	2,0	2,3	2,2	2,0	1,8	1,6	1,4	1,9
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,1	0,3	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,6	0,4
Simple Single Parent	5,0	6,0	9,7	12,4	10,6	8,1	6,3	5,8	6,3	9,2
Enlarged Single Parent	27,5	13,4	7,4	8,0	10,4	13,0	13,7	13,6	13,0	10,5
Extended Single Parent	8,1	4,2	3,3	4,4	5,8	7,2	7,4	6,9	6,3	4,8
Composite Single Parent	7,4	3,4	1,8	1,8	2,1	2,3	2,4	2,2	2,0	2,3
Others	4,8	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
Total	2,2	18,8	26,2	21,9	14,7	9,5	4,8	1,4	0,4	100,0

The proportion (34.0%) of young persons (10-19) that head single person's households represents the highest proportion of any age group that head single person's households in the country (table 4.3c). The proportion of household heads that head single person's households reduces with age to attend a minimum at 40-49 years before beginning to increase with age. The reasons may be that at very young ages, people may lack the maturity and resources to head large households and only acquire them with age thereby increasing the complexity of the households they head. At advanced ages (60+), the proportion of household heads that lead single person's households begin to increase significantly due to outmigration or death of some members of their households. As the ages of household heads increase, the proportion of them that head single parent households reduce to attend minimum values at 40-49 before delining. The above trends are noticed in both urban and rural areas but while the proportion of household heads that head single person's and single parent's households reduces more gradually with age in urban areas, in rural areas, the reduction is more rapid (table 4.4 and 4.4b).

At the level of regions, the proportions of young persons (10-19) that head single person's and single parent's households reduce with age up to 40-49 or 50-59 before reducing with age. In the Littoral, South and Centre regions, the reduction of the proportions of household heads that direct single person's or single parent's households with age is more gradual while in the Far North, North and to some extent the Adamawa regions, it is more rapid. In all except the North and Far North regions, the highest proportions of household heads that head single person's

households belong to youths of 10-19. In these two regions, the highest proportions are held by elderly persons who are 90 years and above (annex 5a -5j).

4.3.4 Ordinary Household Structures and Religious Affiliations of their Heads

The religious affiliations of ordinary household heads is one of the elements that influence ordinary household structures. It is more likely to find households made up of polygamous families headed by Moslems and people who practice the Traditional African Religion than among ordinary household heads belonging to religions that are less tolerant to polygamy. The distribution of ordinary household structures by the religious affiliations of their heads is shown on tables 4.5a, 4.5b and 4.5c.

Table 4.5a: % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household (Urban Areas)

Structure of Ordinary Household	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Traditional African	Other Rel.	Free Thinker	AV.
Single	13,1	14,8	12,5	14,2	13,7	14,2	13,9	20,9	13,6
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	39,1	39,3	38,1	37,8	42,4	41,5	39,2	38,1	39,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,9	1,3	1,0	0,6	6,8	5,1	0,9	1,5	2,0
Enlarged Nuclear Family	19,5	17,4	19,6	17,8	13,6	15,7	18,2	15,8	18,2
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,6	0,8	0,7	0,4	3,5	2,5	0,4	0,7	1,2
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	8,9	5,9	9,1	8,3	4,6	6,5	7,9	5,9	7,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,3	0,3	0,4	0,2	1,3	0,8	0,2	0,4	0,5
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	2,7	2,2	3,0	4,0	2,5	1,6	3,4	1,5	2,7
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	1,0	0,5	0,1	0,1	0,3
Single Parent	2,6	3,1	2,7	2,6	1,6	2,4	3,0	2,3	2,4
Enlarged Single Parent	7,4	9,3	7,8	7,9	5,4	5,8	7,7	8,1	7,2
Extended Single Parent	2,6	2,9	2,9	3,1	1,5	1,6	2,7	2,3	2,5
Composite Single Parent	2,0	2,7	2,2	3,1	2,0	1,9	2,6	2,5	2,1
	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Table 4.5b % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household

(Rural Milieu)	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
Structure of Ordinary Household	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Traditional African	Other Rel.	Free Thinkers	AV
Single	10,2	9,3	8,7	11,8	5,9	5,6	10,6	13,8	8,5
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	44,8	47,9	47,8	46,2	48,8	44,5	45,7	42,5	46,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	5,3	5,6	5,3	4,1	14,4	18,2	7,8	9,6	9,0
Elarged Nuclear Family	17,8	16,0	17,7	16,1	12,1	12,3	15,4	12,8	15,5
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	2,6	2,4	2,7	1,7	5,4	6,9	2,9	4,3	3,8
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	5,8	4,8	5,2	5,0	3,4	2,8	4,4	4,4	4,6
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,9	0,7	0,9	0,6	1,7	1,8	0,9	1,5	1,2
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	2,3	2,2	2,1	3,2	2,1	1,1	2,6	1,3	2,1
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	0,5	0,4	0,4	0,4	1,7	1,2	0,6	0,6	0,8
Single Parent	2,8	3,3	2,8	2,8	1,6	2,4	2,6	2,9	2,5
Enlarged Single Parent	4,3	4,6	4,1	4,6	1,9	2,3	3,8	3,7	3,4
Extended Single Parent	1,5	1,8	1,5	1,6	0,6	0,7	1,5	1,5	1,2
Composite Single Parent	1,1	0,9	0,9	1,9	0,5	0,3	1,2	1,2	0,9
	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Table 4.5c % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household

(both Milieux)	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
Structure of Ordinary Household	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Traditional African	Other Rel.	Free Thinkers	AV
Single	12,0	12,0	10,7	13,2	9,2	6,9	12,4	17,6	11,1
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	41,3	43,7	42,9	41,4	46,1	44,1	42,1	40,2	42,8
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	2,7	3,4	3,1	2,1	11,2	16,3	4,0	5,3	5,5
Elarged Nuclear Family	18,8	16,7	18,7	17,1	12,7	12,8	16,9	14,4	16,8
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,4	1,6	1,7	1,0	4,6	6,3	1,5	2,4	2,5
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	7,7	5,4	7,2	6,9	3,9	3,3	6,3	5,2	6,3
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,5	0,5	0,6	0,4	1,6	1,7	0,5	0,9	0,8
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	2,5	2,2	2,5	3,7	2,2	1,2	3,0	1,4	2,4
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,2	1,4	1,1	0,3	0,4	0,6
Single Parent	2,7	3,2	2,7	2,7	1,6	2,4	2,8	2,6	2,5
Enlarged Single Parent	6,2	6,9	6,0	6,5	3,4	2,8	6,0	6,0	5,3
Extended Single Parent	2,2	2,4	2,2	2,4	1,0	0,8	2,1	1,9	1,9
Composite Single Parent	1,7	1,8	1,6	2,6	1,1	0,5	1,9	1,8	1,5
	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

When both urban and rural milieux are considered, the highest proportions of single person's ordinary households are found among households headed by free thinkers (17.6%) and other Christian (13.2%) while the lowest proportions are found among households headed by Traditional African Religion (6.9%) followed by Moslems (9.2%).

The proportions of simple monogamous ordinary households headed by persons of various religions affiliations are quite similar. These proportions range from 40.2% among free thinkers to 46.1% among Moslems. Various forms of polygamous households are headed in greater proportions by Moslems and traditional African religion than by head of other religious affiliations.

The proportions of various forms of single parent's ordinary household headed by persons of different religious affiliations range from 6.4% for animists through 7.1% for Moslems to 14.2% for other Christians and 14.3% for Orthodox Christians. The proportions of single parent ordinary households headed by Christians of various denominations are quite close but are higher than for Moslems and traditional African religion (table 4.5c).

Variations exist between household structures and religious affiliations of household heads in rural and urban areas. The proportion of single person's ordinary households is higher in urban than rural milieux no matter the religious affiliation of household heads. In rural areas, the proportion of household heads that head single person's ordinary households is least among animists (5.6%) and Moslems (5.9%) and is highest among free thinkers (13.8%). In urban areas, the lowest proportions are found among households headed by Protestants (12.5%) and Catholics (13.1%) while the highest proportions are found among household headed by free thinkers (20.9%) and traditional African religion (14.8) (tables 5.3a and 5.3b). The proportions of ordinary household heads that head polygamous or monogamous ordinary households is higher in rural than urban areas irrespective of religious affiliation. The proportions of Moslems and traditional African religion that head polygamous households are higher than the proportions of households headed by persons of other religious groups

The proportions of persons of various religious denominations who head various forms of single parent's ordinary households vary between rural and urban areas. For all religious groups, these proportions are higher for urban than rural areas. The lowest proportions of ordinary household heads that head single parent's households in rural areas of Cameroon belong to Moslems (4.6%) followed by traditional African religion(5.5%) and the highest proportions belong to other Christians (10.9%) followed by Catholics (10.6%). In urban areas the lowest proportion still belongs to Moslems (10.6%) and the highest proportion to household heads of the Orthodox faith (18.8%).

At the level of the Adamawa region, ordinary household heads that are free thinkers are those that have the highest proportion (34.5%) of those heading single person households; they are followed by Orthodox (22.8%) and Catholics (20.4%). The least proportion belongs to Moslem headed households (9.7%). The highest proportion of monogamous households in the Adamawa region belongs to ordinary households headed by persons of the Protestant faith (46.3%). The proportion of Moslems who head polygamous ordinary households in the Adamawa region is far higher than that of households headed by persons of other religious affiliations. The proportion of Moslems who head single parent households in the Adamawa region is smaller than that of households headed by persons of other religious faiths (annex 2a).

The highest proportion of household heads that head single person's ordinary households in the Centre belongs to free thinkers (23.4%) followed by Moslems (21.3%) and least proportion belongs to Catholics (12.8%). The proportions of ordinary household heads that belong to various religious faiths that head monogamous households are very close. The proportion of household heads of various religious faiths that head polygamous households in the Centre is small but is higher among Moslem household heads than others (annex 2b).

In the East region, the highest proportion of ordinary household heads that head single person's households belongs to Moslems (17.5%) and least proportions belong to animists (8.9%) and Protestants (9.0%). The proportion of animists who head ordinary monogamous or polygamous ordinary households is higher than that of household heads of other religious faiths. The highest proportion of ordinary households that head single parent households belongs to free thinkers (11.0%), followed by Catholics (10.1%) while the lowest proportion belongs to Moslems (7.1%)(annex 2c).

The Far North region is characterized by low proportions of household heads of all religious affiliations that head single parent and single person's households. Even though polygamy is more common among household heads of the Moslem faith, it is also equally common among household heads of other religious faiths in this region. It is the region with lowest proportions of single person's households (table 2d).

Significantly high proportions of ordinary household heads of all religious affiliations in the Littoral region head single person's households with the highest proportion belonging to animist (25.6%) followed by free thinkers (19.1%) and Moslems (18.5%) while the lowest proportion belongs to Catholics (11.5%). The proportions of polygamous ordinary households are very small but slightly higher among Moslem household heads than others. The proportions of household heads of various religious affiliations that head monogamous households are fairly the same. The Littoral region is also characterized by high proportions of household heads of various religious affiliations that head single parent households with the highest proportion coming from Moslems (16.1%) and the lowest from Catholics (13.0%)(annex 2e).

The North region is characterized by low proportions of single person's ordinary households irrespective of the religious affiliations of the heads with the highest belonging to ordinary households headed by Orthodox (9.7%) and the lowest to ordinary households headed by Protestants (6.6%). A good proportion of ordinary households in the North region that are headed by persons of various religious faiths are polygamous households with the highest coming from Moslem headed ordinary households. The proportion of household heads that head single parent ordinary households is small irrespective of the household head's religious affiliation (annex 2f).

The North West is a region with a fairly important proportion of single person's ordinary household heads. Among households headed by persons of various religious affiliations, the highest proportion of those that head single person's ordinary households comes from free thinkers (20.0%) followed by Orthodox and the least proportion of 9.7% comes from Protestants. The proportion of ordinary households that are polygamous is important and most of them are headed by Moslems, animists and free thinkers. Single person parent households are headed by persons of all religious affiliations but the highest proportion comes from free thinkers (15.5%) and animists (14.5%) and the lowest from Moslems (9.4%) (Annex 2g).

The proportion of single person's households in the West region (13.8%) is quite important. The largest proportion of household heads who belong to any religious denomination that head single person's ordinary households in the West region come from traditional African religionists (18.4) and persons belonging to other religions (18.4%) while the lowest comes from Moslems (8.5%). The proportions of households headed by persons of various religious affiliations that head monogamous households in the West region are fairly uniform. Polygamous ordinary households are headed by persons of all religious affiliations in the West region with the highest proportion coming from Moslems, animists and free thinkers. The proportion of household heads that are Orthodox (11.3%) that head single parent households in the West region is the highest of household heads of all religious affiliations while the lowest proportion belongs to Moslems (7.9%)(annex 2h).

The proportion of ordinary households headed by free thinkers (22.6%) that head single person's households is the highest no matter the religious affiliation of the household head in the South region. They are followed by Moslems while the least proportion comes from households headed by Orthodox (9.0%). The proportions of monogamous households are similar for ordinary households of various religious affiliations. The proportions of polygamous households headed by people of different religious affiliations are low. The proportion of single parent ordinary households (17.6%) in the South region is among the highest in the country. The proportions of ordinary household heads that head single parent households is above 14% no matter the religious affiliation of the household head. The highest proportion belongs to households headed by Moslems (22.7%) and the lowest (14.5%) to households headed by persons of other religious faiths (annex 2i)

Among households headed by persons of different religious affiliations in the South West region, the highest proportion that head single person's ordinary households belongs to households headed by free thinkers (24.1%) followed by those headed by Moslems (18%) and the lowest is those headed by animists (8.9%). The proportions of ordinary household heads belonging to the different religious affiliations that head polygamous or monogamous households show very little variations. Ordinary household heads that are free thinkers have the highest proportion that head single parents' households among households headed by persons of different religious affiliations in the South West region and the lowest belongs to households headed by animists (annex 2j).

4.3.5. Educational Levels of Ordinary Household heads and Household Structures

In the preceding analysis, it was seen that the educational level of household heads affect the average household size. Here, emphasis is placed on how household heads' educational levels affect the structures of the households which they head.

Table 4.6a Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (Urban Areas)

Household Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				Total
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	
Single person	14,0	11,7	13,9	20,5	14,3
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	28,4	31,8	31,2	24,6	30,0
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	4,5	1,8	0,7	0,3	1,5
Enlarged Nuclear Family	9,6	13,6	15,0	15,5	13,8
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	2,2	1,1	0,5	0,2	0,9
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,2	5,7	6,7	8,0	6,1
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,8	0,5	0,2	0,1	0,4
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	1,4	1,8	1,9	3,7	2,1
Composite polygamous nuclear famiy	0,6	0,2	0,1	0,1	0,2
Simple single parent family	11,8	11,2	8,4	4,8	9,2
Enlarged single parent family	13,5	11,8	12,9	12,8	12,6
Extended single parent family	7,0	6,1	5,5	5,2	5,9
Composite single parent	3,0	2,7	2,9	4,1	3,0
Total	15,4	28,0	41,8	14,8	100,0

Table 4.6 b Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (Rural Areas)

Household Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	10,1	10,1	11,9	23,6	10,7
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	44,1	37,7	38,7	32,4	37,0
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	11,7	5,9	3,8	2,6	7,2
Enlarged Nuclear Family	12,4	13,7	15,4	12,6	12,4
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	4,6	2,7	2,0	1,2	3,0
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,1	4,1	5,8	5,0	3,7
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,3	0,9	0,7	0,4	1,0
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	1,6	1,7	2,4	3,0	1,7
Composite polygamous nuclear famiy	1,0	0,6	0,5	0,2	0,7
Simple single parent family	12,5	9,8	6,5	4,3	9,3
Enlarged single parent family	10,7	7,8	7,3	7,9	8,2
Extended single parent family	4,9	3,5	3,1	3,2	3,7
Composite single parent	1,7	1,5	2,0	3,6	1,6
Total	45,2	36,8	15,6	2,4	100,0

Table 4.6c Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (both Milieux)

Household Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	10,8	13,4	20,9	20,9	12,6
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	35,0	33,1	25,7	25,7	33,3
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	4,0	1,5	0,6	0,6	4,2
Enlarged Nuclear Family	13,7	15,1	15,1	15,1	13,1
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	2,0	0,9	0,3	0,3	1,9
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	4,8	6,4	7,7	7,7	4,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,7	0,4	0,2	0,2	0,7
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	1,7	2,1	3,7	3,7	1,9
Composite polygamous nuclear famiy	0,4	0,2	0,1	0,1	0,4
Simple single parent family	10,4	7,9	4,7	4,7	9,3
Enlarged single parent family	9,6	11,4	12,1	12,1	10,5
Extended single parent family	4,7	4,9	5,0	5,0	4,8
Composite single parent	2,1	2,7	4,0	4,0	2,3
Total	29,6	32,2	29,3	8,9	100,0

In both rural and urban areas of Cameroon, the proportions of ordinary household heads with secondary or higher education (20.9% each) that head single person's households is higher than that for household heads with no or primary education (10.8 and 13.4% respectively). The proportion of single person's ordinary household heads thus, increases with the educational level. The proportion of monogamous or polygamous ordinary households headed by persons with either no education or primary education is higher than that of persons with secondary and especially higher education. The proportion of ordinary household heads of various educational levels that head single parent's households is fairly similar with the

highest proportion belonging to persons with primary education (27%) and the lowest to persons with secondary and higher education with 25.8% each (table 4.6c).

In both rural and urban areas, the proportion of ordinary household heads with higher education that head single person's ordinary households is higher than for households headed by persons with other educational levels. The proportions of ordinary household heads with no education that head single parent households is higher than those of household heads with other educational levels. For each household head's educational level, the proportion that heads single parent households in rural areas is lower than that of the urban milieu (tables 4.4a and 4.6b).

In the Adamawa region, the proportion of ordinary household heads with higher educational level that head single person's households is very high. It is 46.0% and the proportion of ordinary household heads that have no education that head single person's households is as low as 9.1%. The presence of the University of Ngaoundere with many students living alone may account for this high proportion of persons with higher education leading single person's households. The proportion of persons with no education and primary education who head monogamous and polygamous households is higher than that for persons with secondary or higher education. On the other hand, the proportion of persons with higher education (19.9%) that head single parent's ordinary households is higher than that of persons with no education (16.3%), primary education (14.7%) or secondary education (17.1%), (Annex 3a).

In the Centre region, ordinary household heads with no education have the highest proportion (21.2%) of household heads of any educational level that head single person's household and the lowest proportion (12.1%) comes from household heads with primary education. The proportion of ordinary household heads with no education that head polygamous or monogamous households is small compared to household heads with other educational categories. The proportion of ordinary household heads with no education (41.8%) that heads single parent households in the centre is higher than that of household heads with other educational levels (annex 3b)

In the East region, the proportion of ordinary household heads with higher education (19.9%) that head single person's households is higher than that of households with other educational levels and the lowest proportion belongs to household heads with primary education (10.6%). The proportion of persons with no education that head single parent households (22.9%) is higher than that of persons with other educational levels (annex 3c).

The Far North region is characterized by a very small proportion (7.1%) of single person's households. The highest proportion of household heads of any educational level that head single person's households comes from household heads

with higher education (11.6%) and the lowest from those with no education (6.9%). Polygamous households in this region are headed in larger proportions by household heads with no education or primary education than by those of other educational levels. The proportion (17.3%) of persons with no education that head single parent ordinary households is also higher than that of persons with other educational categories (annex 3d).

The Littoral region compared to other regions of Cameroon, is characterized by a high proportion (13.3%) of single parent households. In terms of the proportion of household heads by different levels that head single person's households in the Littoral region, the highest proportion belongs to persons with no education (18.5%) and the lowest to persons with primary education (12.0%). The proportion of household heads in the Littoral region that head polygamous households is relatively small no matter the educational level of the head. 44.4% of ordinary household heads with no education in the Littoral region head single parent's households against 23.5% for persons with higher education (annex 3e).

In the North region, single person's households represent 10% of ordinary households. The highest proportion of household heads by educational level that head this category of households is household heads with higher education (16.0) and the least belongs to those with primary education. Polygamous households are headed in larger proportions by persons with no or primary education while the proportion of ordinary household heads with higher education that head single parent's households (16.2%) is higher for household heads with any other educational level (annex 3f).

Among households with different educational levels, the highest proportion that heads single person's ordinary households in the North West region is that of household heads with higher education (20.9%) and the lowest proportion belongs to household heads with primary education (9%) followed by households headed by persons with no education (9.2%). Various forms of polygamous households are headed essentially by persons with no or primary education. 44.7% of persons with no education head single person's households as against 29.9% for those with primary education. The proportion of single parent's households is high in this region irrespective of the educational level of the ordinary household head perhaps due to the high out-migration of males (annex 3g).

Compared to other regions, the proportion of single person's ordinary households (15.2%) in the West region is quite high. The proportion of ordinary household heads with higher education that head single person's households in the West region (33.1%) is the highest among household heads of all educational categories and the lowest proportion comes from those with primary education (11.4%). The high proportion of single person's ordinary household heads with higher education in the West region can partly be attributed to the presence of the University

of Dschang that hosts significant numbers of students living singly. Like the North West region, a high proportion of persons with no education (48.5) head single person households in the West Region as against 22.5% for those with higher education. Single parent ordinary households constitute 35% of ordinary households and like the North West region, this high proportion can be partly attributed to high male out-migration (annex 3h)

In the South region, the proportion of ordinary household heads with no education (20.3%) who head single parent households is the highest among household heads of all educational levels and the lowest proportions of 12% each belongs to household heads with primary and secondary education. The proportion of single person's households in the South region is relatively high. Compared to most regions of Cameroon, the proportions of household heads that head polygamous or monogamous households are small in the South region no matter the educational level of the household head. An important proportion of ordinary household heads with no level of education heads single parent households in this region (annex 3i).

The South West is one of the regions that is characterized by high proportions of single person's ordinary households (15.2%). 23.3% of ordinary household heads with higher education head single person's households as against 12% only for those without education. The presence of the University of Buea with a large student population, some of whom are living in single person's households may be partly responsible for this high proportion. The proportion of ordinary household heads headed by persons with different educational levels that head polygamous households in the South West region is relatively small. The proportion of ordinary household heads with no education (38%) that head single parent households in the South West is the highest among ordinary household heads of different levels in this region (annex 3j).

4.3.6. Employment Status of Ordinary Household Heads and Household Structure

In previous sections, it was realise that features of ordinary household heads such as sex, level of education and religious affiliation have an influence on household structure. In this section, attention is focused on how household structure can be influenced by the employment status of the head.

Table 4.7a: Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads
(Urban)

Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	employed	search of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
Total	68,2	8,0	4,2	3,0	0,8	2,7	2,5	0,9	9,7	100,0
Single Person	12,1	26,1	8,4	46,2	9,6	4,4	14,7	15,1	16,1	14,2
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	33,8	24,7	2,3	2,1	26,7	28,1	18,4	23,3	30,5	30,0
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,9	0,3	0,0	0,0	2,6	2,1	2,3	1,8	1,3	1,5
Enlarged Nuclear Family	15,6	10,0	1,1	0,7	12,8	22,0	12,9	12,8	13,2	13,9
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,0	0,2	0,0	0,0	1,4	1,9	2,2	1,6	0,6	0,9
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	6,9	3,4	0,4	0,2	6,1	12,7	5,6	6,3	4,8	6,1
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,4	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,6	1,1	0,9	0,6	0,3	0,4
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,5	1,0	0,2	0,1	2,4	4,2	1,8	1,8	1,7	2,1
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,3	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,4	0,4	0,4	0,2	0,2	0,2
Simple Single Parent	8,0	6,9	37,0	2,1	13,0	6,7	8,0	10,0	9,5	9,2
Enlarged Single Parent	10,1	17,8	28,7	31,6	12,9	8,0	17,8	14,8	13,3	12,6
Extended Single Parent	4,9	5,6	16,3	8,0	8,4	6,1	11,5	8,8	5,5	5,9
Composite Single Parent	2,5	4,0	5,7	8,9	3,1	2,5	3,6	2,8	3,1	3,0
	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Table 4.7b: Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads
(Rural)

Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	employed	search of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
TOTAL	76,5	1,7	1,7	0,7	0,7	0,7	3,5	1,6	12,8	100,0
Single Person	9,6	18,8	12,1	46,4	9,0	9,0	22,4	20,6	8,9	10,7
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	37,9	40,2	2,9	7,7	35,6	28,1	19,5	22,3	45,6	37,2
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	7,7	3,1	0,0	0,3	6,8	4,5	4,6	3,6	7,5	7,1
Enlarged Nuclear Family	12,8	12,0	1,2	1,7	14,4	22,6	11,3	12,1	11,8	12,4
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	3,2	1,1	0,0	0,1	3,6	4,2	3,2	2,8	2,5	3,0
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	3,8	3,5	0,4	0,5	4,1	9,4	3,6	4,3	3,1	3,7
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,0	0,3	0,0	0,0	1,1	2,0	1,2	1,0	0,7	1,0
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	1,7	1,5	0,3	0,2	1,7	4,3	1,2	1,5	1,6	1,7
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,7	0,2	0,0	0,1	0,8	1,0	0,5	0,4	0,6	0,7
Simple Single Parent	9,1	5,7	40,0	4,5	8,6	4,0	6,6	8,4	8,4	9,3
Enlarged Single Parent	7,5	8,2	25,4	23,7	8,8	6,3	15,9	14,3	5,7	8,1
Extended Single Parent	3,4	2,9	13,3	6,9	3,7	3,2	7,6	6,4	2,4	3,7
Composite Single Parent	1,4	2,5	4,5	7,8	1,7	1,5	2,4	2,2	1,3	1,6
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Table 4.7c: Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (both Milieux)

Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	Employed	In search of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
TOTAL	72,5	4,5	3,2	1,9	0,8	1,8	2,9	1,2	11,2	100,0
Single Person	10,8	24,8	9,3	46,3	9,3	5,3	19,0	18,5	12,2	12,5
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	35,9	27,6	2,5	3,1	30,6	28,1	19,0	22,7	38,7	33,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	4,9	0,8	0,0	0,1	4,4	2,6	3,6	2,9	4,6	4,2
Enlarged Nuclear Family	14,1	10,4	1,1	0,9	13,5	22,1	12,0	12,4	12,4	13,2
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	2,2	0,3	0,0	0,0	2,3	2,3	2,8	2,3	1,7	1,9
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	5,3	3,4	0,4	0,3	5,2	12,1	4,5	5,1	3,9	4,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,7	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,8	1,3	1,1	0,9	0,5	0,7
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,1	1,1	0,2	0,1	2,1	4,2	1,5	1,6	1,6	1,9
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,5	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,6	0,5	0,5	0,3	0,4	0,4
Simple Single Parent	8,6	6,7	37,8	2,6	11,1	6,1	7,2	9,0	8,9	9,2
Enlarged Single Parent	8,8	16,0	27,8	30,1	11,2	7,6	16,7	14,5	9,2	10,5
Extended Single Parent	4,1	5,1	15,5	7,8	6,4	5,5	9,3	7,3	3,8	4,8
Composite Single Parent	1,9	3,7	5,4	8,7	2,5	2,3	2,9	2,4	2,1	2,3
TOTAL	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

The result of cross tabulation of ordinary household structures by the employment status of household heads for both rural and urban sectors shows that among household heads of various employment statuses, households headed by students have the highest proportion (46.3%) of household heads of any employment category that head single person's households, followed by those in search for first employment (24.8%) and household heads who cannot work because of disabilities (18.5%) and the least proportions comes from retired ordinary household heads (5.3%), renters (9.3%), housewives (9.3%) and the employed (10.8%). More complex household structures such as various forms of monogamous and polygamous households are headed in large proportions by the employed, renters and retired persons. 86.5% of housewives head single parent's households (table 4.5).

In rural as well as urban areas, the proportion of students who head single person's households is higher than that of ordinary household heads with other employment statuses. This proportion is 46.2% for urban areas and 46.4% for rural areas. In rural areas the second portion belongs to ordinary households headed by persons who can not work because of their advanced ages while in urban areas it belongs to housewives. In both urban and rural areas, the proportion of persons that are employed that head more complex household structures are far higher than that of persons in other employment categories. In both rural and urban areas, the highest proportion of household heads headed by persons with any other employment category that head single parent's ordinary households is held by

housewives (87.7%) for urban areas and 83.3% for rural areas. For both milieux the second position is held by students (tables 4.4a and 4.4b).

In all except the Far North region, the highest proportion of single person’s ordinary household heads by employment status comes from students. In the Far North region, the highest proportion belongs to the aged (23.2%) while that of students comes second (20.8%). The lowest proportion of students who are heads of single person’s households is registered in the Adamawa region (68.0%). The proportion of heads of more complex household structures that is employed in all regions of Cameroon is higher than that of the unemployed. In all regions, the proportion of housewives that head single parent households is far higher than that of household heads of any other employment status (annex 4a-j)

4.4. AGE COMPOSITION OF ORDINARY HOUSEHOLDS

The composition of ordinary households by age groups such as children below 15 years and by elderly persons 60 years and above helps to throw light on the level of dependence within households. On the other hand, the composition of ordinary households in terms of the population aged 15-59 years (active population) gives a picture of the distribution of the population that is supposed to support other population subgroups (children and elderly persons).

4.4.1. Sex of Household Heads and Household Age Composition

17% of ordinary households contain persons aged 0-4 years, 26.7% contain persons aged 5-14, 51.3% contain persons aged 15-59 and only 5% contain persons age 60 and above. The proportion of households headed by women that contain elderly persons (persons 60+) is higher than that of households headed by men irrespective of milieu of residence. On the other hand, the proportion of households headed by men that contain children of less than five is higher than that of households headed by women for both rural and urban areas (table 4.8a).

Table 4.8a Age Composition of Households by Sex of Household Head and Milieu of Residence

Age Group	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	total	Male	Female	total	Male	Female	total
0-4	15.7	12.3	15.3	19.6	15.1	18.9	17.8	13.5	17.0
5-14	24.1	25.1	24.3	28.6	30.8	29.0	26.5	27.5	26.7
15-59	57.1	57.7	57.3	46.0	43.8	45.7	51.2	51.8	51.3
60+	3.0	4.9	3.4	5.8	10.2	6.5	4.5	7.2	5.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

In all the ten regions of Cameroon, the proportion of male headed households that contain children less than 5 years is higher than that of households headed by women while the proportion of female headed households that contain elderly persons is higher than that of male headed households. The proportions of female

and male headed households that contain populations of ages 4-14 and 15-59 are very close for the different regions (table 4.8).

Table 4.8b % Age Composition of Households by Sex of Household Head and Region of Residence

Age Group	Adamawa			Centre			East		
	Male	Female	total	Male	Female	total	Male	Female	total
0-4	18.9	13.4	18.4	16.4	13.8	15.9	19.3	17.2	19.0
5-14	29,4	30,5	29.5	23.2	24.1	23.4	27.1	29.6	27.4
15-59	47,5	48,4	47.6	56.5	56.5	56.5	49.6	46.9	49.2
60+	4,2	7,3	4.5	3.9	5.5	4.3	4.0	6.3	4.3
Total	100.0	100,0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Age Group	Far North			Littoral			North		
	Male	Female	total	Male	Female	total	Male	Female	total
0-4	20.8	13.9	20.2	14.6	10.9	13.8	20.8	13.3	20.3
5-14	30.5	31.9	30.6	21.0	21.6	21.1	29.0	28.9	29.0
15-59	43.7	44.1	43.7	61.0	61.7	61.2	46.6	49.1	46.8
60+	4.3	10.1	5.1	3.4	5.9	3.9	3.6	8.7	4.0
Total	100.0	100,0	100.0	100.0	100	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Age Group	North West			West			South		
	Male	Female	total	Male	Female	total	Male	Female	total
0-4	15.7	14.4	15.4	15,7	14,4	15,4	17,4	14,0	16,5
5-14	28.6	31.4	29.3	28,6	31,4	29,3	28,7	32,4	29,7
15-59	50.5	48.2	49.9	50,5	48,2	49,9	47,7	42,9	46,4
60+	5.2	6.0	5.4	5,2	6,0	5,4	6,2	10,6	7,4
100.0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Age Group	South West								
	Male	Female	total						
0-4	14,9	12,6	14,4						
5-14	25,4	27,6	25,9						
15-59	55,8	55,3	55,7						
60+	3,9	4,6	4,0						
100.0	100,0	100,0	100,0						

The regions that can be considered as those with high proportions of ordinary households with children below five are the Far North (20.2%), North (20.3%) and the Adamawa (19.0%) and the East (17.4%). These proportions are moderate in the South West (16.4%), North West (15.4%) and West (15.4%). In regions with low proportions of ordinary households containing children below five years, these proportions fall below 15%. The proportion of ordinary households that contain children aged 0-4years is related to a large extent to the fertility rate in the various regions. The South West (14.4%), Littoral and Centre with 13.8% each can be considered as regions with low proportions of ordinary households with children below five years. In all the regions, the proportion of female headed ordinary households having children below five is lower than that of households headed by males. In most regions, the proportion of households headed by women that host elderly persons is higher than that of male headed households. The higher proportion of elderly persons in female headed households is probably related to the relatively high proportion of elderly women among household heads.

4.4.2. Educational Levels of Household Heads and Age Composition of their Households

Educational level through its influence on fertility may among other factors influence the age composition of ordinary households. The distribution of ordinary households according to the educational levels of their heads and age composition of their members is displayed on table 4.9

Table 4.9 %Age Composition of Households by Educational Levels of their Heads

Age Composition	Urban					Rural				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
0-4	14,6	14,7	15,5	14,2	15,0	18,6	18,5	20,5	20,2	18,9
5-14	15,0	25,0	23,7	21,0	24,3	30,0	28,8	27,0	23,4	29,0
15-59	50,3	56,3	59,0	63,2	57,3	43,8	46,5	48,4	53,7	45,7
60+	7,9	3,9	1,8	1,6	3,4	7,6	6,2	4,1	2,7	6,5
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Age composition	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
0-4	17,6	16,9	16,9	15,0	17,0
5-14	29,3	27,1	24,6	21,3	26,7
15-59	45,5	50,8	56,0	61,9	51,3
60+	7,7	5,2	2,4	1,8	5,0
total	100	100	100	100	100

An examination of the age composition of households by the educational levels of household heads shows that the proportion of households headed by persons with no education that host persons 60+ is the highest among household heads of all educational levels and this proportion reduces with the educational level of the household head. It is 7.7% for households headed by persons with no education, 5.2% for those headed by persons with primary education, 2.4% for households headed by persons with secondary education and only 1.8% for those headed by persons with higher education. The proportions of households that contain children aged 5-15 are fairly constant among households headed by individuals with different educational levels. The proportion of households that contains persons 15-59 that are headed by persons with higher educational level is higher than among households headed by persons with other educational levels. This proportion increases with the educational level of the household head for both rural and urban areas (table 4.9).

4.4.3. Marital Status of Household Heads and Age Composition of their Households

Aspects of marital status of ordinary household heads such as being in marital union largely call for large households and the composition of such households by populations of very aged groups. On the contrary, households headed by divorced,

separated or widowed persons are often associated with small sizes and few possibilities for housing persons of varied age groups.

Table 4.10 %Age Composition of Households by Marital of their Heads
Urban

Age composition	Single	Monogamous	Polygamous	Co-habitation	Separated	Divorced	Widowed
0-4	9,1	16,4	15,9	21,4	11,4	10,3	10,0
5-14	16,7	25,6	30,4	19,4	25,2	24,1	24,2
15-59	72,0	55,0	49,2	58,1	59,2	60,1	56,9
60+	2,1	3,0	4,5	1,1	4,3	5,4	9,0
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Rural							
0-4	13,3	19,9	20,2	17,8	14,2	12,8	12,3
5-14	23,0	28,4	32,3	33,8	29,3	28,5	29,0
15-59	56,7	46,1	42,2	41,8	47,0	48,1	43,1
60+	6,9	5,7	5,3	6,5	9,4	10,5	15,6
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Total							
0-4	10,5	18,1	19,0	12,8	11,5	12,8	11,1
5-14	18,8	27,0	31,8	27,2	26,1	28,5	26,6
15-59	67,1	50,6	44,1	53,3	54,7	48,1	49,9
60+	3,7	4,3	5,1	6,8	7,7	10,5	12,3
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
0-4	10,5	18,1	19,0	12,8	11,5	12,8	11,1

The highest proportion of households by marital status that have children aged 0-4 years are households headed by persons who are either in monogamous (18.1%) or polygamous unions (19.0%). The lowest proportion of households that contain children aged 0-4 years comes from households headed by single persons (10.5%). The lowest proportion of households that contain persons aged 5-14 also comes from households headed by unmarried persons while the highest comes from households headed by persons in polygamous unions. The proportion of 57.1% for households headed by unmarried persons that contains populations aged (15-59) is far higher than the proportions for households headed by households with any other marital status. The proportion of households that host elderly persons is highest among households headed by widowed persons. This situation is same for both rural and urban areas (table 4.10)

4.4.4. Household Heads' Situations within Employment and Age Composition of their Households

The situation of household heads within employment may have an influence on the age composition of members of his or her household. The relationship between the situation of the household head within employment and the age composition of his or her household is shown on table 4.11

Table 4.11: Age Composition of Households by Situation within Employment of their Head

Age Composition	Permanent wageearner	Temporal wageearners	Employer	Self employed	Family helper	Paid apprentice	Unpaid apprentice	Total
0-4	14,3	17,3	14,9	16,3	15,4	18,2	13,6	15,7
5-14	25,5	22,9	24,3	25,9	25,0	19,7	19,0	25,3
15-59	58,9	58,2	58,4	54,3	55,5	60,7	64,9	56,4
60+	1,4	1,6	2,4	3,5	4,1	1,5	2,5	2,5
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Rural								
0-4	17,9	19,5	17,9	18,7	18,8	19,6	16,3	18,7
5-14	29,4	26,4	28,2	29,6	29,2	25,6	31,3	29,4
15-59	50,2	50,8	47,6	45,3	45,5	51,9	46,7	45,8
60+	2,5	3,3	6,2	6,4	6,5	3,0	5,6	6,1
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Both Rural and Urban Areas								
0-4	14,7	17,9	16,0	17,9	17,8	18,6	14,5	17,4
5-14	26,0	23,9	25,8	28,4	27,9	21,3	23,2	27,6
15-59	57,8	56,1	54,3	48,2	48,5	58,2	58,7	50,6
60+	1,5	2,0	3,8	5,5	5,8	1,9	3,6	4,5
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

The highest proportion of households that host elderly persons comes from those headed by employers and family helpers (5.8%). Households headed by the self-employed and unpaid apprentices also host important proportions of elderly persons. The proportion of households that contain populations aged 15-59 is high and fairly similar irrespective of the situation of the household head within employment. No matter the situation of the household within employment, the proportion of households that contain children of less than 5 years and people 60+ is higher in rural than urban areas (table 4.11).

CHAPTER V: SPECIFIC HOUSEHOLDS

Specific households here refer to households which are likely to face some difficulties due to the inability of the household head to fully perform his or her functions. These are households headed by children (0-14 years) who are still too young to fully and efficiently carry out their functions, households headed by elderly persons whose advanced ages may be an obstacle to the performance of their functions as household leaders and women whom cultural and economic obstacles may stand in the way of their efficient leadership of households.

5.1. ORDINARY HOUSEHOLDS HEADED BY CHILDREN (10-14 YEARS)

The household head is usually the person upon whom the responsibility of providing the basic needs of all the members of the household lies. These young household heads also have to take important decisions concerning feeding, education, health, reproduction, etc for the household. When these responsibilities lie on children, it becomes a problem. Children 10-14 do not have the full mental ability to take responsibility and their resources are often very limited compared to other household heads to meet the needs of the households that they lead.

5.1.1. Importance of Phenomenon

Children may become ordinary household heads due to absence of parents as a result of death or outmigration. Children also become household heads as result of their movements out of their usual households for education or work. The distribution of the proportion of children household heads by regions is shown on table 5.1

Table 5.1 Regional Proportions of Children Ordinary Household Heads by Sex

Region	% Distribution by Sex		Total	Sex ratios
	Male	Female		
Adamawa	0.5	0.1	0.3	500,0
Centre	0.3	0.2	0.2	150,0
East	0.7	0.3	0.5	233,3
Far North	0.3	0.1	0.2	300,0
Littoral	0.2	0.1	0.1	200,0
North	0.6	0.1	0.4	600,0
North West	0.4	0.2	0.3	200,0
West	0.3	0.2	0.3	150,0
South	1.1	0.9	1.0	122,2
South West	0.4	0.3	0.4	133,3
Cameroon Urban	0.5	0.2	0.4	250,0
Cameroon Rural	0.3	0.1	0.2	300,0
Cameroon Total	0.4	0.2	0.4	200,0

The proportion of children 10 to 14 years who are ordinary household heads is 0.4%. This proportion is higher for urban areas (0.4%) than rural areas (0.2%). The all over sex ratio for these young household is largely in favour of males (200). The predominance of males among young household heads is more evident in rural than urban areas (table 5.1).

The proportion of ordinary households headed by children (10-14) is less than 1% in nine (9) out 10 regions. This proportion only reaches 1% in the South region. The proportion of 0.1% for the Littoral is the lowest in the whole country. In all the regions, the sex ratios for these young ordinary household heads are largely in favour of males especially in the North (600), Adamawa (500) and Far North (300). The lowest sex ratios are registered in the South (122.2), South West (133.3) and Centre (150.0).

5.1.2. Survival Status of Children Household Heads

The survival status of parents is important in the determination of children's access to the position of ordinary household leadership. In most circumstances, children become household heads due to the absence of parents as result of death or out-migration.

Table 5.2a: Distribution of Children Household Heads by the Survival Status of Parents

Surviva Status of Parents	Urban			Rural			Both milieux		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Both alive	76.7	76.5	76.6	67.9	70.7	68.7	73.3	74.4	73.6
Father dead	13.3	14.3	13.6	18.6	17.0	18.1	15.3	15.3	15.3
Mother dead	5.4	4.3	5.0	6.2	5.0	5.8	5.7	4.5	5.3
Both dead	4.7	5.0	4.8	7.4	7.4	7.4	5.7	5.8	5.7
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

About 74% of children household heads have both parents alive. More children household heads have lost their fathers than their mother and only 5.7% of children household heads have lost both parents. 26.3% of children who are ordinary household heads have lost either their mother or father or both while for all children taken together, this proportion is 7.9%. The proportion of orphaned children who are ordinary household heads is higher in rural than urban areas (table 5.2).

Table 5.2b Regional Distribution of Children Ordinary Household Heads by Survival Status of Parents

Survival Status of Parents	Adamawa	Centre	East	Far North	Littoral	North	N.West	West	S.West	South
Both alive	68.7	73.2	74.9	72.0	65.1	75.2	75.2	75.7	76.4	74.3
Father dead	18.3	16.2	14.7	18.0	20.5	14.1	12.0	16.3	13.2	12.9
Mother dead	8.2	4.7	6.0	5.1	3.5	4.3	6.5	3.5	6.6	5.4
Both dead	4.8	5.9	4.3	49	10.8	6.4	6.3	4.5	3.8	7.4
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The proportions of orphaned children who are ordinary household heads also vary by region of residence. It is as high as 34.1% for the littoral, 31.3% for the Adamawa and as low as 24.8% for the North region (table 5.2b).

5.1.3. School Attendance by Children Ordinary Household Heads

The results of the 3rd General Population and Housing Census of Cameroon carried out in 2005 show that the school attendance rate for children who are ordinary household heads is significantly lower than that for all children taken together. The school attendance rate for children who are ordinary household heads is 66.6% as against 75.1% for children of compulsory school attendance age.

Table 5.3 : Regional School Attendance Rates for Household Heads Aged 10-14 Years

Région	Milieu of Residence								
	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Adamawa	68.0	54.2	66.1	52.7	48.3	52.0	60.5	50.9	59.0
Centre	65.2	61.6	63.7	69.2	74.2	71.2	66.0	63.9	65.1
East	72.2	78.8	73.9	51.3	48.7	50.6	65.1	68.9	66.1
Far North	74.2	56.3	71.5	60.4	35.7	56.9	67.5	46.7	64.5
Littoral	61.9	58.9	60.7	47.2	50.0	48.1	59.6	57.9	58.9
North	73.3	58.1	71.9	58.3	32.6	55.0	65.9	43.2	63.4
North West	65.7	84.5	71.9	56.4	61.3	58.3	61.8	73.4	65.9
West	68.4	67.7	68.2	76.6	78.7	77.5	72.0	74.4	72.9
South	78.9	76.6	77.9	69.5	54.2	62.9	76.6	71.1	74.2
South West	70.3	75.4	72.6	63.2	70.4	66.2	67.5	73.6	70.2
CAMEROON	70.1	69.8	70.0	60.9	61.4	61.1	66.6	66.7	66.6

At regional levels, important differences exist. For the Littoral and Centre regions, the school attendance rates for children who are household heads are 58.9% and 65.1%, respectively (table 5.3), while for children taken together, these rates are 88.1% for the Littoral and 89.0% for the Centre. On the contrary, for the Northern regions the school attendance rates for children who are household heads are higher than those for children who are not. These rates are 64.5%, 63.4% and 59.0%, respectively for the Far North, North and Adamawa regions. When all children are considered without their statuses, these rates are 54.9%, 56.0% and 56.9%, respectively.

5.1.4. Household Heads Aged 10-14 and Employment

Some times young household heads aged 10-14 are forced to work in order to provide for their basic needs (food, clothing and shelter) while others most of those who are students may not. These young household heads are likely to make up a good proportion of child labourers.

Table 5.4 Employment Rates (%) for Household Heads Aged 10-14

Region	Milieu of Residence								
	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Adamawa	15.4	8.3	14.5	18.9	12.0	17.7	17.0	12.0	15.9
Centre	14.3	12.7	13.7	20.0	6.6	14.6	15.6	16.1	13.8
East	9.8	5.0	8.5	32.5	21.6	29.8	17.4	10.3	15.6
Far North	4.2	3.6	4.0	20.5	43.5	23.7	12.0	23.1	13.7
Littoral	14.7	9.0	12.5	30.3	25.0	28.6	17.0	10.9	14.9
North	6.0	20.0	7.3	21.3	35.9	23.1	13.4	29.0	15.0
North West	10.8	3.2	8.3	16.9	19.6	18.1	13.0	10.1	12.1
West	8.3	3.7	8.0	9.1	4.8	7.2	8.6	8.5	7.6
South	3.8	1.8	2.9	11.8	10.3	11.2	5.7	3.8	4.9
South West	11.1	3.6	7.8	16.3	8.6	13.	13.1	4.5	9.7
Cameroon	9.4	6.8	8.6	18.9	15.5	17.9	12.9	9.9	12.0

Overall, 12.0% of children who are ordinary household heads in Cameroon are employed. This rate is higher for rural than urban areas in the proportions of 17.9% and 8.6%, respectively. It is very likely that a good number of urban children household heads are students attending schools. The employment rate of children who are household heads is higher for the Adamawa, Centre, Littoral, East, North and Far North than other regions (table 5.4).

In spite the fact that ordinary households headed by children are few, special emphasis has to be placed on them for many reasons. Households headed by children are most likely to face problems because the head lacks sufficient resources to provide for the basic needs of the members of the household. These household heads often lack the maturity to efficiently direct the affairs of the household. Children who become ordinary household heads some times do not do so out of their own. They are sometimes forced by circumstances such as death of parents, extreme poverty and lack of school facilities to do so. The consequences include the fact that these children must struggle hard for survival. They become more than other children exposed to prostitution with increased risks of HIV/AIDS infection, drug abuse and other forms of delinquencies, high risks of school drop out, etc. Households headed by children are more likely than other households to be poor households.

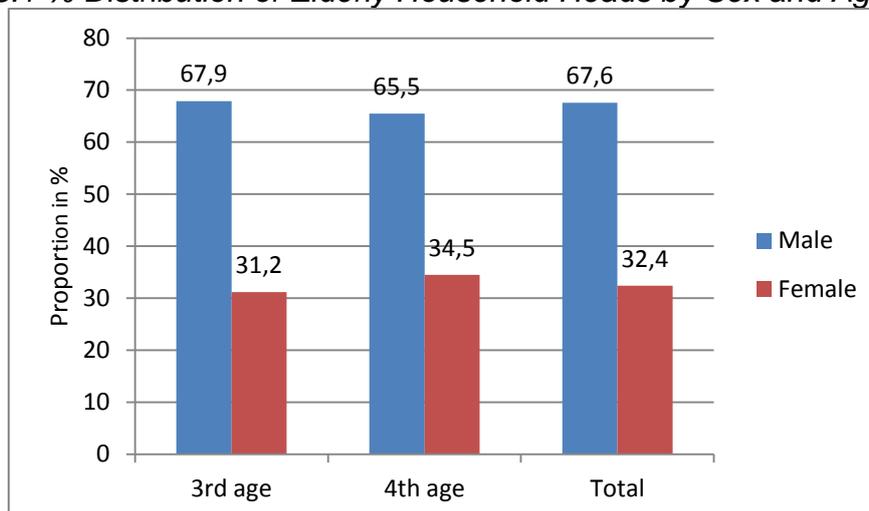
5.2. ORDINARY HOUSEHOLDS HAEDED BY ELDERLY (OLD) PERSONS

Households headed by elderly persons constitute a special type of households and need to be treated separated for many reasons. Firstly elderly persons form a vulnerable group due to the many problems that are associated with advanced ages such as increased disabilities, reduced sources of revenue, poor health, etc .When these problems combine with the various responsibilities of household head, they may largely intensify the difficulties at old age.

5.2.1. Sex and Age Distribution of Elderly Household Heads

During the November, 2005, population count, 870642 elderly persons were enumerated among whom 549583 (63.1%) were household heads with significant sex and age differences as illustrated by figure 5.1

Figure 5.1 % Distribution of Elderly Household Heads by Sex and Age Groups



Two out of every three elderly household head are men (figure 5.1). This leads to the conclusion that a greater proportion of old men than women carry the greatest responsibilities of household leadership. The proportion of elderly men who are household heads is higher than that of females no matter the age group considered (whether 60-79 years or 80+). Access to the position of ordinary household is higher for old persons 60-79 than those 80+ as shown by table 5.5

Table 5.5 Rates of Elderly Household heads by Age Groups

Age Group	Number of Elderly Persons			% of Household Heads		
	male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
60-64	139764	145590	285354	92,1	38,5	64,7
65-69	100090	106399	206489	92,3	42,8	66,8
70-74	80293	91205	171498	88,8	39,5	62,6
75-79	42836	46455	89291	88,1	40,0	63,1
3rd Age	362983	389649	752632	90,9	40,1	64,6
80-84	28500	36168	64668	82,1	34,0	55,2
85-89	11007	13170	24177	81,9	33,6	55,6
90-94	6228	7894	14122	71,5	27,2	46,7
95-98	6125	8918	15043	75,2	33,2	50,3
4th age	51860	66150	118010	80,0	33,0	53,7
Total	414843	455799	870642	89,6	39,1	63,1

For all age groups and age categories and milieu of residence, the proportions of elderly women who are ordinary household heads in rural areas is higher than in

urban areas. There is no age group or category that the proportion of elderly women who are ordinary household heads goes above 46%. This is illustrated by table 5.5.

Table 5.6 Age Distribution of Elderly Persons' Household Headship Rates by Sex and Milieu of Residence

Ages	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
60-64	92,1	35,1	62,6	92,0	45,0	68,7	92,1	38,5	64,7
65-69	92,5	41,0	66,3	91,9	45,9	67,7	92,3	42,8	66,8
70-74	89,5	39,0	63,4	86,9	40,5	60,9	88,8	39,5	62,6
75-79	89,1	41,1	64,8	85,8	38,0	59,5	88,1	40,0	63,1
3è âge	91,2	38,3	64,0	90,3	43,4	65,7	90,9	40,1	64,6
80-84	83,8	35,4	57,7	77,5	31,1	49,4	82,1	34,0	55,2
85-89	84,0	36,0	58,9	76,5	28,9	48,2	81,9	33,6	55,6
90-94	75,0	29,2	51,0	59,9	23,3	36,4	71,5	27,2	46,7
95-98	77,2	35,2	53,4	67,6	28,3	41,3	75,2	33,2	50,3
4th Age	81,9	34,8	56,5	74,4	29,3	46,7	80,0	33,0	53,7
Total	89,9	37,8	63,0	88,8	41,5	63,5	89,6	39,1	

In all regions of the country, more than 50% of elderly persons are household heads. However, regional variations exist. There are four regions whose elderly persons' household headship rates stand above the national average. These regions are West (71.7%), North West (67.5%), South West (65.4%) and Littoral (63.7%). The second category consists of regions with rates below the national average. These regions are North (62.6%), Far North (61.2%), Adamawa (59.9%), Centre (58.1%), South (57.0%) and East (53.9%). The West region is the only region where up to 50% of elderly women are household heads. These regional variations are shown on table 5.7.

Table 5.7 Elderly Persons' Household Headship Rates by Sex and Milieu of Residence

Region	% Distribution by sex		% Distribution by milieu		Total
	male	female	Urban	Rural	
Adamawa	89.9	25.8	60.0	59.8	59.9
Centre	86.3	36.1	59.3	57.2	58.1
East	84.6	27.0	55.4	53.5	53.9
Far North	90.6	30.6	62.4	62.7	62.7
Littoral	88.6	42.9	64.0	62.1	63.7
North	90.1	25.9	60.8	61.3	61.2
North West	92.3	44.2	67.1	67.6	67.5
West	94.0	57.2	69.0	72.6	71.6
South	84.6	36.3	63.0	56.2	57.0
South West	88.3	38.6	68.1	64.1	65.4
Cameroon	89.6	39.1	63.5	63.0	63.1

5.2.2. Employment Situation of Elderly Household Heads

62.5% of elderly persons continue to work, 0.8% are unemployed and 36.7% are not on the labour market either because they are retired, too old to work or do not

want to work. A majority of household heads continue to work up to advanced ages (table 5.8).

Table 5.8: % of Elderly Household Heads by Sex and Milieu of Residence

Employment Status	Sex		Milieu		Total
	Male	Female	Urban	Rural	
Employed	45.0	17.5	14.8	47.7	62.5
Unemployed	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.8
Housewife	0.0	3.5	3.5	2.2	5.7
Renter	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.6	1.3
Retired	5.9	0.7	5.2	1.5	6.7
Others	15.1	10.1	10.3	14.9	25.2
TOTAL	67.6	32.5	33.5	66.5	100.0

There exist rural –urban and gender variations in the employment status of elderly persons. A greater proportion of elderly male than female ordinary household heads are employed (45 against 17.5%). In urban area only 14.8% elderly household heads are employed against 47.7% for rural areas. The proportion of retired household heads is greater in urban (5.2%) than in rural areas (1.5%). There are on average 8 retired male household heads for every woman (table 5.8)

An analysis of elderly persons' household headship rates reveals that a majority of them are either retired, renters or are still employed representing the proportions of 87.1%, 76.0%, and 74.1%, respectively. Close to two thirds of elderly persons (64.4%), who are household heads have at least a source of revenue (table 5.9).

Table 5.9: "Elderly Persons" Household Headship Rates by employment status

Employment Status	Household Headship Rates by Sex		Total
	Urban	Female	
Employed	94.4	47.7	74.1
Unemployed	94.4	52.2	80.8
Housewife	-	34.4	34.4
Renter	92.8	52.7	76.0
Retired	94.9	52.6	87.1
Others	79.1	32.4	50.2
Total	90.5	40.2	64.4

5.2.1 Economic Vulnerability of Elderly Household Heads

An elderly or any other household head is economically vulnerable when he or she does not benefit from a pension, is not employed or does not depend on rents. The distribution of elderly household heads by age and economic vulnerability is shown on table 5.10

Table 5.10: Age Distribution of Elderly Household by Economic Vulnerability

Age Group	Vulnerability Rates	
	All Elderly Persons	Elderly Persons Household Heads
60-64	29.3	20.8
65-69	33.1	24.8
70-74	43.4	32.6
75-79	50.6	39.9
80-84	59.4	47.2
85-89	65.6	54.6
90-9	68.8	56.5
95+	71.1	60.0
Total	39.6	29.5

Elderly persons who are household heads are less economically vulnerable than other elderly persons. 29.5% of elderly persons who are household heads are economically vulnerable against 39.6% for other elderly persons. This can be explained by the fact that the responsibilities of household head causes elderly persons to search to procure a personal source of revenue. This can also be explained by the fact that most persons usually have access to a personal source of income before taking up the functions of household head. The degree of economic vulnerability for elderly household heads increases with age.

The degree of economic vulnerability of elderly household heads varies between rural and urban residence. It is higher for urban (38.5%) than rural areas (25.0%). It is also higher for female than males in both rural and urban areas (table 5.10)

Table 5.11 Economic Vulnerability of Elderly Household Heads by Sex and Milieu of Residence

Milieu	Economic Vulnerability of Elderly by Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
Urban	29.0	56.3	38.5
Rural	20.6	34.9	25.0
Total	23.3	42.6	29.5

At the regional level, the rate of economic vulnerability remains higher for elderly household heads in urban than in rural areas and for women than men. Region that register rates of economic vulnerability of elderly household heads higher than the national average include the West (43.5%), Littoral (41.9%) and the Centre (31.3%). The North region registers the lowest economic vulnerability rate for elderly household heads (table 5.11).

Table 5.12 Economic Vulnerability Rates for Elderly Household Heads by Region and Milieu of Residence

Region	% Economic Vulnerability by Milieu		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Adamawa	38.4	23.2	28.3
Centre	37.7	27.0	31.3
East	26.9	16.7	19.2
Far North	36.4	17.1	20.7
Littoral	43.5	33.8	41.9
North	26.8	12.0	15.7
North West	31.9	25.3	27.2
West	48.2	41.9	43.5
South	39.9	23.9	26.2
South West	27.0	21.1	23.2
Total	38.5	25.0	29.5

Elderly women who are household heads in the Adamawa region are most economically vulnerable (59.9%) followed by those in the Littoral (56.3%) and the Centre (50.0%). In the Centre, South and Littoral regions, the rates of economic vulnerability for elderly female household heads are very close that of their male counterparts (table 5.13)

Table 5.13 Economic Vulnerability Rates for Elderly Household Heads by Region and Sex

Region	Economic Vulnerability Rate by Sex of Elderly Household Head		Total
	Male	Female	
Adamawa	20.5	59.9	28.3
Centre	25.8	41.8	31.3
East	16.0	28.2	19.2
Far North	16.7	34.5	20.7
Littoral	33.5	56.3	41.9
North	12.0	31.4	15.7
North West	23.2	35.0	27.2
West	37.4	50.0	43.5
South	23.1	31.5	26.2
South West	18.4	36.1	23.2
Total	18.4	42.6	29.6

5.2.3. Marital Status of Elderly Household Heads

Most elderly persons are in marital union (63.3%). An important proportion (27.0%) is widowed. Single or married elderly household heads represent a small proportion (6.4%). The proportion of separated or divorced elderly household heads represents an even smaller proportion (3.4%). 85% of elderly male household heads are in marital unions while for their female counterparts, 69.3% are widows. Variations exist between rural and urban areas. The proportion of widowed elderly female household heads is higher in rural (70.2%) than urban areas (67.7%), (table 5.14). The high proportion of households headed by widowed females is associated with the many problems of female widowhood such as problems related to land inheritance, widowhood rites, etc

Table 5.14 Marital Status of Elderly Household Heads by Sex and Milieu of Residence

Marital Status	Urban			Rural			Both Milieu		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Single	5.3	9.0	6.6	5.6	7.6	6.3	5.5	8.3	6.4
Married	85.3	18.3	61.8	84.9	17.5	64.0	85.0	17.8	63.3
Sep/Divorced	2.5	5.0	3.4	2.9	4.4	3.4	2.8	4.6	3.4
Widowed	7.0	67.7	28.2	6.6	70.2	26.4	6.8	69.3	2.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

5.2.4. Sizes of Ordinary Households Headed by Elderly Persons

50.5% of ordinary households headed by elderly persons count at least five persons and above. This proportion is higher for rural (55.2) than urban areas (48.2%). Households of 1 and 2 persons headed by elderly persons represent 27.7%. Their proportion is higher in rural than urban areas (30.2 and 22.2%, respectively). The average household size for households headed by elderly persons of 5.4 is higher than the national average of 5.1. The average household size for households headed by elderly persons in urban areas is 5.6 against 5.3 for rural areas (table 5.15).

Table 5.15 Household Sizes and Average Household Sizes for Households Headed by the Elderly

Household Size	Milieu		Total
	Urban	Rural	
1	11.5	15.5	14.1
2	10.7	15.1	13.6
3	11.3	11.5	11.4
4	11.4	9.8	10.3
5+	55.2	48.2	50.5
Average Household Size	5.6	5.3	5.4
Total Average Household Size	4.8	5.5	5.1

14.1% of households headed by elderly persons are single person's households. This means that the household heads live alone. This increases the problem of social isolation which is common at old age.

Irrespective of milieu of residence, the average household size for households headed by elderly men is higher than that of households headed by elderly women. The average household size for households headed by elderly women is 3.6 while it is 6.2 for households headed by elderly men. The average household size for households headed by elderly women in urban areas is higher than that headed by elderly women in rural areas (4.2 against 3.3), (table 5.16).

Table 5.15 Average Household Sizes for Household Headed by Elderly Persons by Sex and Milieu of Residence

Milieu	Average Household Size by Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
Urban	6.4	4.2	5.6
Rural	6.2	3.3	5.3
Total	6.2	3.6	5.4

Regional variations in average household sizes for household headed by elderly persons exist. In regions such as the Adamawa, North West and South West, average household sizes for households headed by the elderly are higher than overall regional average household sizes while for other regions, they are lower (table 5.16)

Table 5.17 Average Household Sizes of Households Headed by the Elderly by Region.

Household Size	Household Size by region									
	Adamawa	Centre	East	F. North	Littoral	North	N. West	West	South	S. West
1	9.5	15.8	15.2	13.4	13.7	15.1	10.3	18.7	14.0	10.1
2	10.5	13.8	16.5	13.3	12.2	12.1	9.4	15.6	29.9	9.1
3	9.2	10.7	11.5	10.5	13.8	10.1	8.9	12.8	18.5	9.2
4	9.1	9.9	9.5	9.1	13.6	8.8	9.2	10.8	11.7	11.4
5+	61.7	49.1	47.3	53.7	46.6	53.4	62.1	42.2	29.9	60.2
Average Household Size for Households headed by elderly	6.8	5.1	5.2	5.8	4.7	5.9	6.3	4.6	4.0	5.9
Regional Average household Size	5.8	4.7	5.2	6.2	4.3	5.9	5.6	4.9	4.1	4.6

Apart from the North West and South West regions where the average household sizes for households headed by elderly persons in rural areas are higher than those of urban areas, in the reverse is true in other regions. No matter the region and milieu of residence, average household sizes for households headed by elderly women are smaller than those headed by elderly males (table 5.18).

Table 5.18 Average Household Sizes for Households Headed by Elderly Persons by Sex and Milieu of Residence

Region	Average Household Size for Households Headed by the Elderly by Sex and Milieu								
	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Adamawa	8.7	4.6	7.6	7.0	3.6	6.4	7.5	4.0	6.8
Centre	6.4	5.1	5.9	5.2	3.5	4.6	5.7	4.1	5.1
East	7.0	4.8	6.4	5.4	3.4	4.8	5.8	3.8	5.2
F;North	7.5	3.3	6.3	6.6	2.5	5.7	6.1	2.2	5.8
Littoral	5.3	4.1	4.8	4.3	2.8	3.8	5.1	3.9	4.7
North	7.4	3.7	6.5	6.5	2.1	5.7	6.7	2.6	5.9
N. West	7.0	4.7	6.2	7.4	4.4	6.4	7.3	4.5	6.3
West	6.2	3.7	5.0	5.8	3.1	4.5	5.9	3.3	4.6
South	5.1	4.2	4.7	4.2	3.2	3.9	4.3	3.4	4.0
S.West	6.1	4.6	5.6	6.7	4.3	6.1	6.5	4.4	5.9
Cameroon	6.4	4.2	6.2	6.2	3.3	5.3	6.2	3.6	5.4

5.2.5. Age Composition of Households Headed by Elderly Persons

Households headed by elderly persons are made up essentially of younger generations. Elderly persons make up only 21.4% of such households (table 5.19).

Table 5.19: Age structure of other members of Households Haeded by Elderly Persons by Milieu of Residence

Age Group	3 rd Age	4 th Age	Total
0-4	11,1	9,4	10,9
5-14	25,6	22,8	25,4
15-34	28,5	24,6	28,1
35-59	14,4	12,7	14,3
60-79	19,9	10,4	19,0
80+	0,5	20,1	2,4
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0

64.2% of members of households headed by elderly persons are children and youths. 10.9% of this population is made up children of less than 5, 25.4% are aged between 14 and 14 and 28.1 are aged between 15 and 34). The proportion of old persons found within these households is only 14.3%. These elderly persons may be in a majority their spouses. The high proportion of children within households headed by elderly persons may be linked to the fact that they are often called up to take care of their grand children especially when the parents are unable for various reasons. By living with grand children and perhaps great grand children, intergenerational households are created. This helps to reduce social isolation that is common at advanced ages.

Households headed by elderly females contain a higher proportion of children and youths than those headed by elderly men (64.1 and 25.7%, respectively) (table 5.19).

Table 5.19 Age Composition of Households Headed by Elderly Persons by Sex and Milieu of Residence

Age Group	% Comosition of households headed by age category			% Comosition of households headed by age category		
	3 rd Age	4 th Age	Total	3 rd Age	4 th Age	Total
0-4	11.3	9.3	10.8	11.2	9.4	11.0
5-14	25.9	22.9	25.6	25.3	22.6	25.1
15-34	28.5	25.1	28.2	28.4	24.1	28.0
35-59	3.0	4.9	3.1	26.3	20.5	25.7
60-79	31.5	0.7	28.6	7.9	20.3	9.1
80+	0.1	37.0	3.7	0.9	3.0	1.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

5.3. HOUSEHOLDS HEADED BY WOMEN

Features of households headed by women such as their spatial distribution, their average sizes and their strutures have been treated in previous sections of this study. In this section, emphasis will be placed on their marital status, their employment situations, educational levels and economic vulnerability.

5.3.1. Marital Status of Female Household Heads

In a situation where women live in the same ordinary household with their husbands or other male adults, she is hardly a household head. Married women usually become household heads in the absence of their husbands. A majority of household heads are either unmarried or widowed as shown on table 5.20a and b

Table 5.20a % Distribution of Female Household Heads by Milieu of Residence

Milieu	% Distribution of Female Household Heads by Marital Status						Total
	Single	Married	Cohabitation	Separated	Divorced	Widowed	
Urban	36.9	24.0	2.5	3.9	3.8	28.8	
Rural	15.1	27.9	2.0	4.2	3.5	47.7	
Total	27.4	25.7	2.3	4.1	3.7	36.9	

Table 5.20b % Distribution of Female Household Heads by Region

Region	% Distribution of Female Household Heads by Marital Status						Total
	Single	Married	Cohabitation	Separated	Divorced	Widowed	
Adamawa	23.6	18.7	1.5	5.0	11.6	39.7	100.0
Centre	42.1	17.9	4.1	4.2	2.8	28.9	100.0
East	31.4	19.0	3.2	5.9	5.0	35.5	100.0
F. North	9.0	25.4	0.8	6.0	5.9	52.9	100.0
Littoral	33.5	21.3	2.6	4.3	3.5	34.8	100.0
North	17.3	19.9	1.1	6.4	9.8	45.6	100.0
N.West	22.6	41.1	0.8	3.4	2.6	29.5	100.0
West	11.3	33.6	1.2	1.9	2.0	50.0	100.0
South	35.2	17.5	5.3	4.3	3.0	34.7	100.0
S. West	36.5	29.8	1.8	3.7	3.3	24.7	100.0
Cameroon	27.4	25.7	2.3	4.1	3.7	36.9	100.0

A majority of female household heads are widows (36.9%). After widowed female household heads in terms of importance comes unmarried female household heads (27.4%) and the third position is occupied by married female household heads (25.7%). In urban areas, a majority of female household heads are unmarried (36.9%). The proportion of widowed household heads comes in second position with 28.8% and that of married female household heads comes in third position with 24.5%. In rural areas, the highest proportion of female household heads belongs to widowed women (47.3%), the second position to married female household heads (27.9%) and the third to single female household heads (15.1%), (table 5.20a).

As far as regions are concerned, slightly more than half of female headed households are headed by widowed women in the Far North region and 50% of them are headed by women in the West regions. These are the regions with the highest proportions of widowed women household heads. In the Centre, Littoral, South and South West regions the majority of female household heads are single (table 5.20b).

5.3.2. Educational Levels of Female Household Heads

The educational level of female household heads is one of the key factors that determine the education of children and decision taking in favour of children. The

distribution female and male ordinary household heads by educational levels is shown on table 5.21

Table 5.21 % Distribution of Household Heads by Sex and Milieu of Regions

Educational Level of Household Head	Urban			Rural			Both Milieux		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Non	47.2	52.8	100.0	64.7	35.3	100.0	58.7	41.3	100.0
Primary	70.2	29.8	100.0	78.9	20.1	100.0	76.2	23.8	100.0
Secondary	78.7	22.3	100.0	88.3	11.7	100.0	81.2	19.0	100.0
Higher	81.4	18.6	100.0	87.2	12.8	100.0	82.2	17.8	100.0
Total	75.3	24.7	100.0	78.9	21.1	100.0	77.0	23.0	100.0

At the national level, women make up 41.3% of household heads with no education while they make up only 23.0% of all household heads. In urban areas, the proportion of women among household heads without education (52.8) is higher than that of rural areas. As the level of educational increases the proportion of female household heads reduces. This trend is witnessed in both urban and rural milieux (table 5.21).

5.3.3. Situation of Female Household Heads within Employment

Employed female household heads can be self-employed, permanent or temporal wage earners, paid or unpaid apprentices. The distribution of female and male household heads in relation to their positions within employment is shown on table 5.22

Table 5.22 % Distribution of Household heads by Sex according to Employment Situation

Situation within Employment	% Distribution of household Heads by Sex and Milieu of Residence								
	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Permanent wage earners	33.6	25.5	32.1	5.0	2.5	4.5	18.6	13.6	17.7
Temporal wage earners	15.0	8.8	13.9	5.0	2.3	4.5	9.8	5.4	9.0
Employer	1.0	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.6
independent	48.6	62.1	57.1	86.6	90.5	87.4	68.5	76.8	70.0
Family aid	1.6	2.7	1.8	2.8	4.5	3.2	2.2	3.6	2.5
Paid apprentices	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Unpaid apprentices	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

On average, 76.8% of female household heads are self-employed against 68.5% for their male counterparts. The proportion of self-employed female household heads is higher in rural (90.5%) than rural areas (62.1%) (Table 22). The high concentration of rural female household heads in self-employment may be due to their low educational levels and competences that force them to self-employment in the primary sector especially in subsistence agriculture. No matter the sector of residence, the proportion of female household heads that are family aids is higher

than that of males and the proportion of male household heads who earn a wage be it permanent or temporal is higher than that of female household heads (table 5.20). This to some extent exposes the degree of economic vulnerability of female household heads.

CONCLUSION

The 3399346 ordinary households that were enumerated in Cameroon in November, 2005 host 99.4% of the total population of Cameroon. 52.5% of these households were found in urban areas while 47.5% were found in rural areas. The proportion of households in urban areas is growing at the expense of that of rural areas. In 1987, only 38.5% of ordinary households were found in urban areas but by 2005, this proportion had risen to 52.5%. This translates the rapid shift of the population of Cameroon from a predominantly rural to an increasingly urban population together with the accompanying problems such as urban housing scarcity, urban insecurity, insufficiency of potable water, etc. Women make up only 23% of the population of ordinary household heads in Cameroon. This to some extent brings out the low representation of women in positions of decision making. The higher proportion of women household heads in urban areas makes us to foresee an increase in both the proportion and number of female household heads as urbanization and modernization proceed. The mean age of ordinary household heads in rural areas is higher than for urban areas. If the current trend of urbanization continues, mean ages of ordinary household heads in rural areas may continue to rise. 29.2% of ordinary household heads in Cameroon have never been to school. This proportion goes to values as high as 64.8% for the Far North, 58.3% for the North and 52.3% for the Adamawa. The high rate of ordinary household heads with no education can work negatively on children's school attendance and household incomes. Children, whom are normally not supposed to be household heads, head 0.4% households in Cameroon. These children headed households are likely to be problem households because their heads may lack the necessary maturity and resources to efficiently run their households. Households headed by elderly persons can also be regarded as problem households as 29.2% of these households lack a personal source of income. 14.1% of these households are single person's households, a translation of isolation that is often common in old age. Female headed households constitute households that face many problems because the head is more likely to be single parent, widowed or lack a personal source of income than the male household head.

To improve upon the living conditions of households, it is recommended that government should continue to make efforts to reduce the cost of living, reinforce adult literacy programmes and place emphasis on the improvement of living conditions of households headed by children of 10-14, elderly persons and women.

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ANNEX

Annex 1a Regional Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Sex of Household Head

(Adamawa, Centre and East)						
Household Structure	% of Household by Sex and Household Structure					
	Adamawa		Centre		East	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Single Person	11,2	21,3	8,5	6,3	11,3	17,8
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	42,2	1,7	21,8	0,3	45,6	2,1
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	10,6	0,0	0,6	0,0	5,5	0,0
Enlarged Nuclear Family	14,1	0,8	12,2	0,2	16,9	1,2
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	5,0	0,0	0,5	0,0	2,2	0,0
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	4,2	0,3	6,1	0,1	6,5	0,3
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,7	0,0	0,3	0,0	0,9	0,0
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,7	0,4	1,9	0,0	1,8	0,1
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,6	0,0	0,1	0,0	0,3	0,0
Simple Single Parent	1,4	28,9	1,3	8,4	2,2	31,0
Enlarged Single Parent	3,3	27,8	4,5	10,7	4,6	29,6
Extended Single Parent	0,8	12,8	1,5	5,7	1,3	14,0
Composite Single Parent	1,2	6,2	40,5	68,2	0,9	3,9
TOTAL	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Annex 1b Regional Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Sex of Household Head

(Far North, Littoral and North)						
Household Structure	% of Household by Sex and Household Structure					
	Far North		Littoral		North	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Single Person	4,3	22,8	13,3	13,5	7,7	28,4
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	51,7	2,3	42,9	2,0	45,8	1,8
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	12,8	0,0	0,7	0,0	13,0	0,0
Enlarged Nuclear Family	13,4	0,5	19,0	0,9	13,1	0,6
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	4,5	0,0	0,5	0,0	5,5	0,0
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	3,5	0,2	7,5	0,4	3,3	0,2
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,3	0,0	0,2	0,0	1,6	0,0
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	1,8	0,2	2,1	0,1	2,5	0,3
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,0	0,0	0,1	0,0	1,8	0,0
Simple Single Parent	2,0	40,5	2,6	31,9	1,7	33,7
Enlarged Single Parent	2,3	19,2	7,1	31,1	2,4	21,0
Extended Single Parent	0,7	9,5	2,2	15,1	0,6	8,4
Composite Single Parent	0,7	4,9	1,8	5,0	0,9	5,7
TOTAL	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Annex 1c Regional Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Sex of Household Head

(North West, West and South)						
Household Structure	% of Household by Sex and Household Structure					
	North West		Westl		South	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Single Person	11,1	11,7	13,8	17,8	13,1	13,6
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	42,0	1,2	40,7	0,9	40,4	2,8
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	3,7	0,0	6,1	0,0	1,1	0,0
Enlarged Nuclear Family	18,6	0,5	16,4	0,3	15,8	1,3
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	2,3	0,0	3,5	0,0	0,8	0,0
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	6,0	0,1	6,5	0,1	7,7	0,8
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,7	0,0	1,5	0,0	0,7	0,0
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,7	0,1	1,9	0,1	2,9	0,3
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,3	0,0	0,4	0,0	0,3	0,0
Simple Single Parent	3,8	40,1	2,3	33,3	2,9	26,5
Enlarged Single Parent	4,9	26,3	4,5	28,8	9,5	30,0
Extended Single Parent	2,6	15,7	1,4	14,8	2,7	18,0
Composite Single Parent	1,4	4,3	1,2	3,9	2,2	6,7
TOTAL	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Annex 1d Regional Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Sex of Household Head

(South West)	% of Household by Sex and Household Structure	
Household Structure	South West	
	Male	Female
Single Person	14,9	15,7
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	39,6	3,0
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,9	0,0
Enlarged Nuclear Family	16,9	1,4
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,0	0,0
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	5,0	0,4
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,4	0,0
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,7	0,2
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,0
Simple Single Parent	3,9	31,6
Enlarged Single Parent	7,1	25,0
Extended Single Parent	3,5	16,5
Composite Single Parent	3,0	6,1
TOTAL	100,0	100,0

Annex 2b % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household									
(Centre)	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
Structure of Ordinary Household	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Animist	Other Rel.	Free Thinkers	AV.
Single Person	12,8	13,3	13,2	14,4	21,3	18,4	14,5	23,4	14,09
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	35,8	37,7	35,9	35,0	38,4	36,4	35,4	33,9	35,9
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,9	1,2	0,9	0,6	2,3	1,1	0,7	0,8	1,015
Elarged Nuclear Family	21,2	19,1	20,6	18,9	12,7	18,9	20,3	16,3	20,13
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,9	0,7	0,9	0,5	1,3	0,5	0,5	0,4	0,883
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	10,7	9,1	10,6	10,3	5,7	8,2	9,6	7,5	10,12
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,4	0,3	0,4	0,3	0,6	0,5	0,2	0,2	0,43
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	3,1	3,5	3,1	4,6	2,0	1,7	4,3	1,6	3,056
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,1	0,3	0,1	0,2	0,1	0,191
Single Parent	2,3	2,8	2,1	2,2	1,5	1,9	2,5	1,8	2,211
Enlarged Single Parent	7,2	7,7	7,6	7,9	8,4	8,2	7,4	9,2	7,494
Extended Single Parent	2,5	2,2	2,5	2,5	2,1	2,1	2,4	2,3	2,48
Composite Single Parent	1,7	2,1	2,0	2,7	3,3	2,2	2,1	2,4	1,996
	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100

Annex 2c % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household

(East)	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
Structure of Ordinary Household	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Animist	Other Rel.	Free Thinkers	AV.
Single	10,2	11,7	9,0	10,0	17,5	11,0	8,9	13,7	11,3
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	44,7	44,8	48,3	42,8	43,9	51,3	47,6	43,2	45,6
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	3,4	3,1	4,9	3,7	12,1	2,9	3,4	3,5	5,5
Enlarged Nuclear Family	19,3	20,3	17,7	19,7	9,5	14,8	19,0	17,7	16,9
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,8	2,3	2,1	2,7	3,1	2,2	2,2	1,5	2,2
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	7,6	6,8	6,7	7,8	3,7	7,2	7,1	6,0	6,5
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,7	0,5	0,8	0,9	1,3	0,4	0,6	1,0	0,9
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	1,8	1,6	1,7	2,7	1,3	2,5	2,1	2,0	1,8
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	0,2	0,3	0,2	0,3	0,6	0,4	0,5	0,2	0,3
Single Parent	2,4	2,1	2,3	1,9	1,7	1,3	1,9	2,1	2,2
Enlarged Single Parent	5,2	3,4	4,4	5,2	3,7	3,1	4,4	6,0	4,6
Extended Single Parent	1,6	2,1	1,1	1,5	0,7	1,3	1,5	1,7	1,3
Composite Single Parent	1,0	1,0	0,7	0,9	1,0	1,8	0,9	1,2	0,9
	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Annex 2d % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household

(Far North)	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
Structure of Ordinary Household	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Animist	Other Rel.	Free Thinkers	AV.
Single	5,3	4,0	3,7	5,5	4,1	4,0	5,4	6,6	4,3
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	53,6	54,2	54,5	54,4	53,6	45,6	51,1	47,7	51,7
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	9,7	11,3	8,3	9,8	11,9	19,1	15,9	16,3	12,8
Elarged Nuclear Family	13,9	11,8	16,5	13,7	12,8	12,6	12,4	11,4	13,4
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	3,3	4,8	3,2	2,6	4,1	6,9	3,6	5,5	4,5
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,4	2,7	4,1	3,8	3,9	2,5	2,9	2,9	3,5
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,0	0,8	0,9	1,1	1,4	1,7	1,0	1,3	1,3
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	1,7	1,3	1,9	2,2	2,2	0,9	1,6	1,0	1,8
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	0,6	1,0	0,5	0,6	1,3	1,0	0,6	0,9	1,0
Single Parent	2,3	3,1	1,7	2,1	1,6	2,5	1,9	2,8	2,0
Enlarged Single Parent	2,9	3,1	3,0	2,6	1,8	2,3	2,4	2,2	2,3
Extended Single Parent	0,9	0,7	0,8	0,6	0,6	0,6	0,8	0,7	0,7
Composite Single Parent	1,2	1,2	1,1	1,1	0,6	0,3	0,6	0,8	0,7
	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Annex 2e % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household									
(Littoral)	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
Structure of Ordinary Household	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Animist	Other Rel.	Free Thinkers	Av.
Single Person	11,5	14,5	11,5	13,5	18,5	25,6	13,2	19,1	12,8
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	44,2	45,5	41,9	42,2	42,7	44,3	42,5	41,8	43,1
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,7	0,5	0,6	0,5	1,7	1,0	0,5	0,8	0,8
Elarged Nuclear Family	20,1	18,8	20,0	17,9	13,5	16,5	18,2	16,4	19,1
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,4	0,4	0,5	0,3	0,9	0,6	0,3	0,5	0,5
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	7,7	5,1	8,7	7,0	4,6	6,8	7,3	5,6	7,5
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,1	0,2	0,1	0,4	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,2
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	2,1	1,3	2,4	3,3	1,5	1,7	2,8	1,3	2,1
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,1
Single Parent	2,6	2,9	2,8	2,6	1,7	2,3	3,2	2,4	2,6
Enlarged Single Parent	6,7	7,4	7,1	7,4	8,8	7,1	7,5	7,7	7,1
Extended Single Parent	2,1	2,3	2,5	2,5	2,3	1,8	2,4	2,0	2,2
Composite Single Parent	1,5	1,2	1,6	2,6	3,3	2,1	2,1	2,0	1,8
	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	110,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Annex 2f % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household

(North)	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
Structure of Ordinary Household	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Animist	Other Rel.	Free Thinkers	
Single Person	8,9	9,7	6,6	7,9	7,6	6,8	8,3	8,9	
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	48,1	50,4	49,6	49,9	43,6	42,0	45,9	44,6	
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	10,5	7,7	7,6	7,2	15,1	20,6	15,3	18,2	
Elarged Nuclear Family	13,4	14,4	16,6	16,3	12,1	10,0	11,7	9,9	
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	4,4	3,9	3,8	3,0	6,4	8,0	5,1	6,7	
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,2	4,2	4,3	3,3	3,1	2,2	2,7	2,2	
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,3	0,8	0,9	0,8	1,9	2,1	2,3	1,6	
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	2,2	2,6	3,2	3,4	2,7	1,6	2,4	1,2	
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	1,1	0,6	1,0	1,2	2,4	2,5	1,5	1,7	
Single Parent	2,1	1,4	1,7	1,7	1,4	2,0	1,9	2,0	
Enlarged Single Parent	2,8	2,4	3,0	2,9	2,2	1,5	1,8	2,0	
Extended Single Parent	0,7	0,3	0,7	0,6	0,6	0,3	0,4	0,5	
Composite Single Parent	1,1	1,7	1,0	1,9	0,7	0,3	0,7	0,6	
	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	

Annex 2g % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household

(North West)	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
Structure of Ordinary Household	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Animist	Other Rel.	Free Thinkers	AV.
Single	11,9	15,0	9,7	11,2	10,8	12,7	12,5	20,0	11,1
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	40,9	39,2	43,1	39,0	45,2	31,0	38,2	34,2	42,0
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	2,5	3,1	3,7	3,6	7,3	7,5	4,7	4,8	3,7
Elarged Nuclear Family	19,1	19,0	19,3	17,0	15,3	17,3	18,2	15,6	18,6
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,6	1,5	2,4	1,8	3,8	7,7	2,9	3,6	2,3
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	6,6	5,0	6,0	8,6	3,9	6,3	5,7	3,5	6,0
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,5	0,3	0,6	0,4	1,1	3,8	0,5	1,2	0,7
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	3,1	2,2	2,5	4,4	2,3	0,9	2,3	1,5	2,7
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	0,1	0,0	0,2	0,2	1,0	0,5	0,5	0,3	0,3
Single Parent	4,0	3,1	3,8	3,3	3,0	4,5	4,3	4,7	3,8
Enlarged Single Parent	5,2	6,3	4,9	5,4	3,7	3,3	5,1	6,0	4,9
Extended Single Parent	2,8	3,6	2,5	3,4	1,7	3,5	3,0	2,9	2,6
Composite Single Parent	1,5	1,6	1,3	1,8	1,0	1,1	2,1	1,6	1,4
	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Annex 2h % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household

(West)	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
Structure of Ordinary Household	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Animist	Other Rel.	Free Thinkers	AV.
Single	15,1	17,0	14,2	18,2	8,5	18,4	18,4	16,6	13,8
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	39,8	39,2	40,1	41,8	41,8	41,3	41,3	41,1	40,7
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	3,6	4,5	4,0	1,8	12,2	3,5	3,5	6,1	6,1
Elarged Nuclear Family	18,1	16,7	18,0	16,2	14,5	14,6	14,6	13,4	16,3
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	2,1	0,4	2,6	1,0	6,3	2,4	2,4	3,7	3,5
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	7,5	6,7	7,3	6,3	4,2	6,1	6,1	6,8	6,5
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,0	0,9	1,3	0,4	2,3	0,6	0,6	2,0	1,5
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	2,2	2,5	2,2	3,6	1,5	2,8	2,8	1,4	1,9
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	0,2	0,6	0,3	0,1	0,9	0,4	0,4	0,4	0,4
Single Parent	2,6	2,9	2,5	2,2	1,9	2,5	2,5	2,2	2,3
Enlarged Single Parent	4,7	6,0	4,8	4,9	4,1	4,3	4,3	4,1	4,5
Extended Single Parent	1,5	1,2	1,6	1,7	1,1	1,4	1,4	1,4	1,4
Composite Single Parent	1,4	1,5	1,2	1,8	0,7	1,7	1,7	1,1	1,2
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Annex 2i % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household

(South)	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
Structure of Ordinary Household	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Animist	Other Rel.	Free Thinkers	AV.
Single	12,3	9,0	10,4	14,7	19,6	15,2	13,7	22,6	12,3
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	40,5	44,4	41,0	38,2	41,9	47,2	42,8	37,8	40,7
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,0	1,5	1,2	1,3	1,3	0,4	1,1	1,2	1,1
Elarged Nuclear Family	15,9	16,0	17,4	15,3	7,6	13,2	16,6	12,9	15,9
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,6	0,6	0,2	0,9	0,4	0,8
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	8,1	6,0	8,1	8,6	4,0	6,1	6,8	5,3	7,7
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,5	1,3	0,9	0,5	0,7	0,4	0,5	0,1	0,7
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	3,1	2,2	2,9	3,6	1,4	1,9	2,9	2,5	2,9
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	0,3	0,2	0,3	0,2	0,2	0,0	0,1	0,3	0,3
Single Parent	3,1	4,0	3,0	2,6	2,1	2,9	2,6	2,6	3,0
Enlarged Single Parent	9,4	10,8	9,5	8,6	13,6	9,2	7,0	9,5	9,6
Extended Single Parent	2,7	3,1	2,9	2,8	2,5	1,5	2,3	1,8	2,8
Composite Single Parent	2,4	0,7	1,6	3,0	4,5	1,9	2,6	3,0	2,2
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Annex 2j % Distribution of Ordinary Household Structure by Religious Affiliations of Household

(South West)	% Distribution of Ordinary Households Heads by Religious Affiliation								
Structure of Ordinary Household	Catholic	Orthodox	Protestant	Other Christ.	Moslem	Animist	Other Rel.	Free Thinkers	AV.
Single Parent	14,4	13,6	13,7	14,5	18	8,9	16	24,1	14,9
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	39,4	39,9	39,9	42,0	42,9	37,6	38,6	34,2	39,6
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	2,1	1,5	1,5	1,4	1,6	13,6	1,1	2,2	1,9
Elarged Nuclear Family	17,1	18,1	18,1	15,7	11,7	12,6	15,1	13,7	16,9
Enlarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,2	0,9	0,9	0,7	0,9	4,7	0,6	1,2	1,0
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	5,2	5,5	5,5	4,6	4,8	5,1	3,9	3,1	5,0
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,4	0,3	0,3	0,2	0,4	4,2	0,1	0,3	0,4
Monogamous Nuclear Composite Family	2,6	2,5	2,5	3,9	1,8	2,4	4,9	1,7	2,7
Polygamous Nuclear Composite Family	0,2	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,3	0,7	0,2	0,2	0,2
Single Parent	4,0	4,0	4,0	3,6	2,7	2,6	3,9	4,0	3,9
Enlarged Single Parent	7,1	7,2	7,2	6,6	8,0	3,9	7,7	7,7	7,1
Extended Single Parent	3,7	3,5	3,5	3,2	3,5	1,5	3,9	3,7	3,5
Composite Single Parent	2,8	2,8	2,8	3,4	3,5	2,2	4,0	4,0	3,0
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Annex 3a Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (Adamawa Region)

Household Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	9,1	10,1	15,7	46,0	12,5
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	38,3	38,4	35,5	16,1	36,6
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	11,4	9,0	4,4	1,4	9,2
Enlarged Nuclear Family	11,1	13,4	15,5	10,1	12,3
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	5,0	4,7	2,6	1,0	4,4
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,2	4,2	4,9	2,8	3,7
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,7	1,7	0,8	0,2	1,5
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	2,3	2,3	2,8	2,1	2,4
Composite polygamous nuclear family	1,6	1,4	0,7	0,3	1,4
Simple single parent family	5,8	5,2	3,9	1,7	5,2
Enlarged single parent family	6,1	5,9	8,5	10,9	6,7
Extended single parent family	2,7	2,1	2,3	2,4	2,5
Composite single parent	1,6	1,4	2,4	5,0	1,9
Total	52,3	28,1	13,5	6,0	100,0

Annex 3b Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (Centre Region)

Household Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	21,2	12,1	13,8	20,9	15,2
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	20,3	29,0	29,1	23,5	27,3
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,3	1,2	0,6	0,2	0,8
Enlarged Nuclear Family	9,0	16,4	16,0	15,3	15,3
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	0,9	1,2	0,5	0,2	0,7
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,7	7,1	8,2	9,6	7,7
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,4	0,5	0,3	0,1	0,3
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	1,3	2,1	2,1	3,7	2,3
Composite polygamous nuclear family	0,2	0,2	0,1	0,0	0,1
Simple single parent family	9,3	8,7	8,1	4,6	7,8
Enlarged single parent family	18,9	12,7	12,9	13,1	13,4
Extended single parent family	9,2	6,0	5,7	5,1	6,0
Composite single parent	4,4	2,7	2,6	3,7	3,0
Total	9,3	30,1	43,6	17,0	100,0

Annex 3c Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (East Region)

Household Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	13,6	10,6	13,0	19,9	12,4
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	39,1	41,2	33,9	27,8	38,1
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	7,1	4,4	2,7	1,6	4,6
Enlarged Nuclear Family	10,3	15,1	16,5	15,2	14,2
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	1,9	2,1	1,6	0,6	1,8
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,2	5,2	7,5	9,9	5,5
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,6	0,8	0,7	0,3	0,7
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	0,9	1,3	2,0	3,2	1,5
Composite polygamous nuclear famiy	0,3	0,2	0,3	0,1	0,3
Simple single parent family	9,0	7,0	5,9	4,9	7,1
Enlarged single parent family	9,1	7,9	10,1	9,8	8,9
Extended single parent family	3,6	3,0	3,9	3,9	3,5
Composite single parent	1,2	1,2	1,7	2,7	1,4
Total	27,4	41,1	27,7	3,8	100,0

Annex 3d Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (Far North Region)

Household Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	6,9	6,7	8,7	11,6	7,1
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	43,8	45,0	44,8	43,6	44,2
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	11,4	11,5	7,8	4,6	10,9
Enlarged Nuclear Family	10,8	12,0	13,2	14,8	11,4
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	3,9	4,2	3,0	1,9	3,8
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,7	3,4	3,8	4,1	3,0
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,1	1,2	0,9	0,4	1,1
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	1,3	1,6	2,5	2,9	1,5
Composite polygamous nuclear famiy	0,8	1,0	0,9	0,4	0,8
Simple single parent family	9,2	6,4	3,7	3,4	7,9
Enlarged single parent family	4,9	4,2	5,8	6,9	4,8
Extended single parent family	2,2	1,7	1,7	2,2	2,0
Composite single parent	1,1	1,0	3,2	3,3	1,3
Total	64,8	22,9	10,1	2,2	100,0

Annex 3e Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (Littoral Region)

House Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	18,5	12,0	12,5	15,3	13,3
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	22,3	33,2	36,1	31,7	33,3
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,1	0,9	0,4	0,2	0,6
Enlarged Nuclear Family	8,6	13,6	15,9	18,2	14,8
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	0,7	0,6	0,2	0,1	0,4
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,0	5,4	6,2	7,5	5,8
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,3	0,3	0,1	0,1	0,2
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	0,9	1,4	1,6	3,3	1,7
Composite polygamous nuclear famiy	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,1
Simple single parent family	13,4	11,8	8,4	4,6	9,4
Enlarged single parent family	18,4	12,8	11,7	11,7	12,7
Extended single parent family	8,9	5,6	4,5	4,3	5,3
Composite single parent	3,7	2,5	2,2	2,9	2,6
Total	10,0	29,7	47,8	12,5	100,0

Annex 3f Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (North Region)

House Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	9,7	9,3	11,6	16,0	10,0
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	40,9	42,4	40,7	35,3	41,1
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	13,5	11,1	6,3	4,5	11,6
Enlarged Nuclear Family	10,4	12,5	15,1	16,4	11,7
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	5,3	5,1	3,5	1,9	4,9
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,4	3,3	4,3	4,4	2,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,5	1,5	1,0	0,7	1,4
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	2,0	2,3	3,2	4,1	2,3
Composite polygamous nuclear famiy	1,7	1,7	1,1	0,6	1,6
Simple single parent family	6,1	4,6	3,1	2,8	5,2
Enlarged single parent family	4,3	3,8	5,8	7,4	4,4
Extended single parent family	1,5	1,3	1,6	2,0	1,5
Composite single parent	1,1	1,1	2,6	3,9	1,4
Total	58,3	25,4	13,6	2,7	100,0

Annex 3g Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (North West Region)

House Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	9,2	9,0	17,0	20,9	11,3
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	25,1	35,7	26,1	19,9	29,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	3,7	2,5	1,2	0,5	2,6
Enlarged Nuclear Family	10,8	14,7	13,3	13,1	13,0
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	2,4	1,4	0,8	0,4	1,6
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,4	4,5	5,4	7,8	4,2
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,7	0,4	0,3	0,2	0,5
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	0,7	1,6	2,9	6,8	1,9
Composite polygamous nuclear family	0,3	0,2	0,1	0,1	0,2
Simple single parent family	20,1	14,4	9,7	6,8	15,0
Enlarged single parent family	15,2	8,7	11,7	10,8	11,5
Extended single parent family	7,9	5,3	7,4	7,0	6,6
Composite single parent	1,5	1,6	4,1	5,6	2,3
Total	33,8	42,4	16,5	7,3	100,0

Annex 3h Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (West Region)

House Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	17,8	11,4	13,3	33,1	15,2
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	15,9	31,2	33,7	19,6	26,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	4,1	5,1	2,8	0,8	3,9
Enlarged Nuclear Family	6,7	10,4	14,9	13,4	10,6
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	2,7	2,5	1,6	0,5	2,2
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,4	4,0	6,0	6,7	4,2
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,0	1,1	0,7	0,3	1,0
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	0,6	1,1	1,8	2,9	1,2
Composite polygamous nuclear family	0,3	0,3	0,2	0,1	0,3
Simple single parent family	14,4	16,4	10,1	4,1	13,4
Enlarged single parent family	21,0	9,9	9,2	10,7	13,2
Extended single parent family	10,6	4,8	3,7	3,6	6,2
Composite single parent	2,3	1,7	2,1	4,2	2,1
Total	30,7	37,6	25,2	6,5	100,0

Annex 3i Ordinary Household Structure by Educational of Household Head (South Region)

House Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	20,3	12,0	12,0	18,5	13,2
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	22,2	31,5	33,0	25,0	31,0
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,8	1,1	0,7	0,3	0,8
Enlarged Nuclear Family	7,1	12,4	12,9	11,5	12,1
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	0,3	0,8	0,6	0,2	0,6
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,6	5,4	6,6	7,8	5,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,4	0,6	0,5	0,2	0,5
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	1,5	2,1	2,3	3,3	2,2
Composite polygamous nuclear famiy	0,1	0,3	0,2	0,1	0,2
Simple single parent family	10,7	9,5	8,5	5,5	8,9
Enlarged single parent family	17,8	13,7	14,4	17,8	14,7
Extended single parent family	11,0	7,1	5,5	5,5	6,6
Composite single parent	5,2	3,5	2,8	4,2	3,3
Total	9,2	34,0	50,4	6,5	100,0

Annex 3j Ordinary Household Structure by Educational Level of Household Head (South Region)

House Structure	% of HH by Educational Level				
	Non	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Total
Single person	12,0	13,2	17,5	23,3	15,2
Simple Monogamous Nuclear family	29,2	34,1	28,2	21,7	30,3
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	3,2	1,4	0,6	0,3	1,4
Enlarged Nuclear Family	11,0	14,0	13,1	12,2	13,0
Enlarged polygamous Nuclear family	1,4	0,8	0,4	0,2	0,8
Extended Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,7	4,1	4,2	4,3	3,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,5	0,3	0,2	0,1	0,3
Composite mongamous nuclearFamily	1,8	1,9	2,1	3,3	2,1
Composite polygamous nuclear famiy	0,2	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,1
Simple single parent family	14,7	11,5	9,0	6,1	10,9
Enlarged single parent family	13,1	9,9	12,6	13,9	11,6
Extended single parent family	7,2	5,8	7,6	8,1	6,8
Composite single parent	3,0	3,0	4,6	6,5	3,8
Total	18,7	44,5	25,9	10,9	100,0

Annex 4b Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (Centre)

Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	Employed	Insearch of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
TOTAL	69,5	8,4	2,9	2,8	0,8	2,7	2,2	1,5	9,1	100,0
Single Person	12,6	28,3	8,8	51,6	10,2	5,1	20,5	17,3	16,4	15,1
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	30,3	22,0	1,2	3,2	26,3	23,8	15,2	20,8	28,5	27,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,9	0,1	0,0	0,0	1,4	1,4	1,2	1,4	0,5	0,8
Enlarged Nuclear Family	17,0	10,0	1,0	1,0	15,5	23,0	13,9	15,0	14,9	15,4
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,8	0,1	0,0	0,0	1,1	1,5	1,6	1,6	0,4	0,7
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	8,7	4,2	0,4	0,5	8,2	14,2	6,3	6,3	6,3	7,7
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,4	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,7	1,1	0,7	0,6	0,2	0,3
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,7	1,1	0,1	0,1	3,0	4,5	2,1	2,6	1,9	2,3
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,3	0,5	0,3	0,3	0,1	0,1
Simple Single Parent	7,1	6,2	32,7	2,0	9,2	5,9	6,1	8,0	8,3	7,8
Enlarged Single Parent	11,5	18,6	31,0	29,1	13,5	9,0	17,3	15,1	13,9	13,4
Extended Single Parent	5,3	5,6	18,9	6,2	7,2	6,9	10,5	7,7	5,6	6,0
Composite Single Parent	2,6	3,8	6,0	6,2	3,3	3,1	4,2	3,4	2,9	3,0

4c :Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (East)

Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	Employed	Insearch of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
TOTAL	80,4	2,6	2,1	1,5	0,4	0,9	1,6	0,8	9,7	100,0
Single Person	11,1	21,8	9,9	41,9	9,1	5,2	21,2	18,1	14,3	12,3
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	40,4	31,6	2,9	3,9	38,6	25,5	21,6	30,5	40,7	38,2
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	5,0	2,0	0,0	0,0	5,8	4,4	2,8	3,4	4,5	4,6
Enlarged Nuclear Family	14,9	12,0	1,5	1,5	19,4	23,2	12,7	14,3	12,9	14,2
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	2,0	0,8	0,0	0,0	2,5	3,7	2,8	2,4	1,4	1,9
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	5,8	4,0	0,4	0,3	3,0	14,5	5,3	4,9	4,1	5,5
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,8	0,2	0,0	0,1	0,7	2,5	1,0	0,8	0,4	0,7
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	1,6	1,2	0,1	0,0	1,7	2,7	1,3	0,8	1,2	1,5
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,3	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,7	0,9	0,2	0,3	0,2	0,3
Simple Single Parent	6,6	5,9	35,8	3,3	5,5	4,4	7,9	7,0	6,9	7,1
Enlarged Single Parent	7,6	14,7	26,7	38,5	8,6	7,2	14,2	11,1	8,8	8,9
Extended Single Parent	2,9	4,1	16,8	7,6	3,5	5,0	7,4	5,4	3,1	3,5
Composite Single Parent	1,2	1,7	5,8	2,9	1,2	0,7	1,7	1,2	1,4	1,4

4d Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (Far North)

Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	Employed	Insearch of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
TOTAL	72,9	2,7	1,9	0,7	0,5	0,4	2,7	0,7	17,5	100,0
Single Person	6,3	10,3	17,8	20,8	6,4	3,8	23,2	19,1	5,2	7,1
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	44,2	48,6	2,1	13,0	43,6	33,6	27,7	31,0	53,0	44,3
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	12,0	5,0	0,0	0,6	10,4	12,9	8,4	8,3	9,1	10,9
Enlarged Nuclear Family	11,9	12,7	0,5	3,4	11,4	17,9	9,8	11,7	11,0	11,4
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	4,3	1,9	0,0	0,1	3,8	8,6	3,6	4,8	2,6	3,8
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	3,1	2,9	0,2	0,7	3,1	6,0	2,6	3,3	2,9	3,0
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,2	0,4	0,0	0,1	1,3	2,4	1,1	1,3	0,8	1,1
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	1,6	1,6	0,2	0,3	1,8	4,4	1,5	1,3	1,3	1,5
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,0	0,3	0,0	0,0	1,1	2,3	0,7	0,6	0,5	0,8
Simple Single Parent	7,3	4,1	42,2	4,1	7,8	3,1	6,1	7,0	7,4	7,9
Enlarged Single Parent	4,2	7,1	20,2	27,4	5,4	3,0	8,9	7,1	3,6	4,8
Extended Single Parent	1,8	1,9	9,7	5,2	2,2	1,0	4,4	3,3	1,5	2,0
Composite Single Parent	0,9	3,2	7,2	24,4	1,6	1,0	2,0	1,4	1,0	1,3

Annex 4e Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (Littoral)

Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	Employed	Insearch of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
TOTAL	70,0	7,4	4,4	0,9	1,0	3,0	2,8	1,1	9,3	100,0
Single Person	12,8	22,1	7,2	48,8	9,3	5,0	14,3	16,9	15,5	13,3
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	36,1	30,6	3,1	3,4	28,5	32,0	20,6	24,3	32,8	33,3
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,6	0,1	0,0	0,0	1,0	1,5	1,1	1,0	0,5	0,6
Enlarged Nuclear Family	15,9	12,0	1,2	1,2	12,9	21,8	12,9	12,6	14,8	14,8
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,4	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,5	1,1	1,1	1,1	0,3	0,4
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	6,3	3,4	0,5	0,2	6,1	11,7	6,2	6,1	4,6	5,8
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,3	0,7	0,5	0,5	0,1	0,2
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	1,9	0,8	0,2	0,2	1,8	3,2	1,5	1,4	1,3	1,7
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,2	0,1	0,2	0,0	0,1
Simple Single Parent	8,0	6,7	37,1	3,9	14,1	7,3	8,8	10,0	8,9	9,5
Enlarged Single Parent	10,8	16,6	30,2	30,8	14,1	7,9	18,2	14,8	14,0	12,7
Extended Single Parent	4,4	4,7	16,2	6,0	8,7	5,8	11,0	7,9	4,6	5,3
Composite Single Parent	2,4	2,8	4,3	5,4	2,5	1,8	3,6	3,2	2,5	2,6

Annex 4f Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (North)

Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	Employed	Insearch of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
TOTAL	78,5	1,6	1,5	0,7	0,3	0,6	1,4	0,4	15,0	100,0
Single Person	9,2	17,5	16,9	30,5	11,7	4,1	25,1	20,9	9,3	9,9
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	41,8	40,5	1,8	9,5	32,0	34,5	24,7	35,2	45,6	41,1
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	12,4	5,3	0,0	0,5	9,2	8,6	7,4	6,7	11,1	11,6
Enlarged Nuclear Family	12,0	11,7	0,7	1,9	12,4	21,2	10,9	11,7	11,5	11,7
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	5,3	1,5	0,0	0,2	5,0	6,2	5,2	2,7	4,3	4,9
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	3,0	2,4	0,1	0,4	2,8	8,4	2,7	3,5	2,7	2,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,5	0,6	0,0	0,1	1,8	2,4	1,3	1,4	1,2	1,4
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,4	1,8	0,5	0,3	3,6	3,0	1,6	1,2	2,1	2,3
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,7	0,6	0,0	0,2	2,1	2,2	1,5	1,1	1,2	1,6
Simple Single Parent	4,7	3,4	35,6	2,8	8,4	3,6	5,2	5,2	4,9	5,2
Enlarged Single Parent	3,7	9,1	24,4	28,6	5,3	3,2	8,5	6,7	4,0	4,4
Extended Single Parent	1,2	1,7	11,1	5,6	3,4	1,5	3,6	2,7	1,1	1,5
Composite Single Parent	1,0	3,9	8,8	19,4	2,4	0,8	2,2	0,9	1,2	1,4

Annex 4g: Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (North West)

Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	Employed	Insearch of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
TOTAL	73,5	3,6	2,3	2,5	1,1	1,4	3,6	1,1	10,9	100,0
Single Person	9,2	27,0	4,7	45,5	7,7	3,8	14,3	15,8	11,5	11,2
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	31,8	22,1	1,9	1,4	32,3	26,0	17,7	20,6	33,3	29,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	2,9	0,6	0,0	0,0	4,0	1,8	3,3	2,7	2,1	2,5
Enlarged Nuclear Family	13,7	9,0	1,0	0,4	14,9	26,6	15,6	14,0	12,6	13,1
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,7	0,3	0,0	0,1	2,6	2,2	3,2	2,7	1,1	1,6
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	4,4	3,7	0,3	0,2	3,2	13,9	3,8	4,0	3,6	4,2
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,5	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,7	0,8	1,1	0,8	0,2	0,5
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,0	1,5	0,1	0,1	1,4	6,9	1,2	1,3	1,8	1,9
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,2	0,3	0,4	0,2	0,2	0,2
Simple Single Parent	15,3	9,3	45,0	3,5	14,7	4,6	10,0	13,3	15,1	15,0
Enlarged Single Parent	10,4	14,3	24,9	28,1	9,5	5,2	18,0	15,7	9,9	11,5
Extended Single Parent	6,0	7,6	17,7	11,0	7,0	5,2	9,4	7,5	6,2	6,6
Composite Single Parent	1,7	4,4	4,3	9,7	1,7	2,8	2,1	1,4	2,6	2,2

Annex 4h Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (West)

Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	Employed	Insearch of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
TOTAL	67,0	4,0	6,0	2,3	0,9	1,8	7,1	2,8	8,0	100,0
Single Person	12,4	29,7	9,4	58,9	12,4	7,5	22,1	22,2	16,0	15,2
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	30,0	26,4	1,3	0,7	30,7	30,6	14,9	17,8	30,6	26,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	4,5	1,5	0,0	0,0	6,7	5,5	3,8	3,5	3,4	3,9
Enlarged Nuclear Family	11,8	9,8	0,4	0,3	12,7	21,4	9,8	9,3	9,8	10,6
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	2,4	0,5	0,0	0,0	3,3	5,3	3,7	2,9	1,6	2,2
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	4,7	3,4	0,1	0,1	4,7	9,8	3,7	3,9	4,0	4,2
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,0	0,3	0,0	0,0	1,4	2,7	1,6	1,4	0,7	0,9
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	1,4	1,1	0,1	0,0	1,2	3,0	0,7	0,6	1,3	1,2
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,3	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,7	0,5	0,4	0,3	0,3	0,3
Simple Single Parent	13,0	7,6	42,1	2,5	9,8	4,1	6,0	9,7	14,0	13,4
Enlarged Single Parent	11,1	12,8	28,3	25,0	10,8	6,1	20,8	18,0	11,2	13,2
Extended Single Parent	5,6	3,5	14,0	5,6	4,0	2,4	10,3	8,7	5,0	6,2
Composite Single Parent	1,7	3,4	4,3	6,8	1,7	0,9	2,3	1,7	2,0	2,1

Anne 4i: Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (South)

Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	Employed	Insearch of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
TOTAL	77,0	3,9	2,5	3,1	0,5	2,2	3,3	2,1	5,3	100,0
Single Person	12,1	18,6	8,3	22,0	10,1	6,6	17,4	16,6	15,2	13,0
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	34,0	26,9	3,9	2,2	33,2	26,7	21,3	24,7	33,5	31,0
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,9	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,5	0,9	1,2	1,6	0,6	0,8
Enlarged Nuclear Family	13,5	7,0	2,0	0,5	13,8	18,0	10,3	12,0	11,1	12,2
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,7	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,7	1,7	0,8	0,8	0,3	0,6
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	6,4	2,9	1,0	0,2	8,0	13,4	5,6	6,9	4,2	6,0
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,5	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,5	1,8	0,5	0,4	1,0	0,5
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,4	1,0	0,1	0,0	1,9	5,9	2,1	2,2	1,8	2,2
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,4	0,8	0,2	0,5	0,1	0,2
Simple Single Parent	8,5	9,5	33,4	2,7	6,5	7,1	7,7	8,3	7,1	8,8
Enlarged Single Parent	11,7	24,2	26,6	57,4	12,4	9,2	16,5	13,9	16,1	14,7
Extended Single Parent	5,8	5,9	17,6	11,1	8,6	5,5	11,8	8,8	6,0	6,6
Composite Single Parent	3,2	3,6	7,0	3,9	3,5	2,5	4,6	3,3	2,9	3,3

Annex 4j: Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (South West)										
Structure of Household	% Distribution of Household Heads by Employment Status									
	Employed	Insearch of 1st Empl	H.Wife	Student	Renter	Retired	Aged	Disabled	Idler	Total
TOTAL	70,2	6,8	1,5	3,1	1,0	1,8	1,8	0,6	13,2	100,0
Single Person	13,3	24,5	4,8	41,4	10,5	5,3	12,8	19,0	16,4	15,1
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	33,3	25,4	10,9	1,5	25,0	25,0	17,4	19,9	31,5	30,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,6	0,3	0,0	0,1	3,3	1,4	3,2	1,4	1,1	1,4
Enlarged Nuclear Family	14,2	8,7	4,9	0,4	12,5	22,4	13,9	11,8	11,7	13,0
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,9	0,1	0,1	0,0	2,1	1,4	2,1	1,8	0,5	0,8
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	4,2	2,1	1,5	0,2	4,1	9,6	3,8	4,5	3,0	3,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,3	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,5	0,8	0,9	0,5	0,1	0,3
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	2,3	1,1	0,5	0,1	1,7	5,2	2,4	3,1	1,8	2,1
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,3	0,2	0,5	0,3	0,1	0,1
Simple Single Parent	10,9	7,8	31,6	2,0	15,0	8,7	10,6	10,3	11,9	10,9
Enlarged Single Parent	9,9	16,0	22,8	28,1	13,5	8,3	17,4	15,7	11,8	11,6
Extended Single Parent	5,9	8,0	17,7	13,7	8,3	7,9	11,6	8,0	6,5	6,8
Composite Single Parent	3,1	5,9	5,2	12,6	3,0	3,8	3,6	3,6	12,9	3,8

**Annex 5a Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads
(Adamawa)**

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									
	oct-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	Total
Single Person	44,7	25,7	8,9	6,12	5,8	8,1	9,8	12,54	18,5	12,6
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	12,8	39,4	44,5	37,7	32,0	27,5	25,5	22,08	20,7	36,5
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,6	3,2	9,2	12,4	13,6	11,7	10,0	7,146	4,44	9,1
Enlarged Nuclear Family	2,7	10,3	13,7	12,5	12,4	12,8	14,7	14,33	13,3	12,2
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,9	3,3	5,25	7,0	8,4	7,8	6,157	5,32	4,3
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	0,5	2,3	3,6	4,1	4,4	4,9	5,1	5,473	5,7	3,7
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,3	1,0	1,86	2,4	2,8	3,0	3,041	1,65	1,5
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,5	1,4	2,5	2,84	2,7	2,8	2,7	3,155	3,3	2,4
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,2	0,8	1,68	2,5	2,7	2,5	2,281	1,65	1,3
Simple Single Parent	3,7	3,3	5,5	7,01	6,1	4,9	3,8	3,421	4,44	5,2
Enlarged Single Parent	18,5	8,5	4,5	4,88	6,4	7,6	8,3	11,48	12,7	6,7
Extended Single Parent	6,5	1,7	1,4	2,27	3,2	4,1	5,1	6,689	5,83	2,6
Composite Single Parent	5,0	2,8	1,3	1,38	1,6	1,7	1,7	2,204	2,53	1,9
Others	4,4	0,0	0,0	0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0	0	0,1
Total	2,6	21,7	25,4	21,0	13,5	8,7	4,9	1,7	0,5	100,0

**Annex 5b Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads
(centre)**

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									
	oct-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	total
Single Person	41,6	29,4	12,3	7,3	7,8	12,6	19,8	27,5	30,8	15,2
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	4,3	23,4	33,3	31,2	25,3	19,3	16,6	14,6	14,4	27,3
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,2	0,5	0,9	1,3	1,7	1,8	1,4	1,2	0,8
Enlarged Nuclear Family	1,3	9,8	17,7	16,9	17,5	17,5	15,3	12,3	10,4	15,3
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,1	0,3	0,6	1,3	2,1	2,1	1,6	2,7	0,7
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	0,6	3,5	8,4	10,0	9,9	8,7	6,3	5,7	2,7	7,7
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,3	0,6	1,0	0,9	0,9	1,0	0,3
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,9	2,3	3,0	3,3	3,0	2,6	2,4	1,9	2,3
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,3	0,5	0,5	0,3	0,4	0,1
Simple Single Parent	4,1	5,1	8,1	10,6	8,8	6,4	5,2	5,5	6,6	7,8
Enlarged Single Parent	29,4	18,3	10,3	10,5	13,0	15,1	15,9	15,9	15,4	13,4
Extended Single Parent	6,8	5,2	4,5	6,1	7,7	8,8	9,2	8,0	8,8	6,0
Composite Single Parent	5,4	4,1	2,2	2,4	3,1	3,3	3,8	4,1	3,7	3,0
Others	6,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
Total	2,0	21,2	28,1	23,2	13,6	7,7	3,3	0,7	0,2	100,0

Annex 5c Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (East)

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									
	oct-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	total
Single Person	36,4	17,3	9,5	7,3	9,3	13,5	18,2	21,4	17,3	12,4
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	17,7	42,1	43,1	39,3	33,8	29,0	26,5	24,9	26,7	38,0
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,5	2,7	4,8	5,7	6,0	5,3	4,4	3,3	2,5	4,6
Enlarged Nuclear Family	4,4	13,7	15,1	14,4	14,7	15,3	14,4	14,4	15,2	14,2
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,8	1,6	2,2	2,9	3,2	2,9	2,4	1,2	1,8
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	0,9	4,2	5,9	6,7	6,2	5,6	5,2	4,5	4,5	5,5
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,2	0,6	0,9	1,2	1,2	1,1	0,5	1,6	0,7
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,2	1,0	1,6	1,9	1,7	1,5	1,1	0,9	2,9	1,5
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,1	0,2	0,3	0,3	0,5	0,6	0,1	0,0	0,3
Simple Single Parent	4,2	5,0	7,5	8,8	8,3	7,1	7,3	7,0	6,6	7,1
Enlarged Single Parent	25,1	8,9	6,3	7,5	9,9	11,1	11,7	12,4	13,2	8,9
Extended Single Parent	4,7	2,5	2,6	3,6	4,5	5,4	5,4	7,1	4,9	3,5
Composite Single Parent	2,5	1,5	1,3	1,3	1,3	1,4	1,2	1,2	3,3	1,4
Others	3,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
Total	3,7	22,5	26,2	21,7	13,7	8,1	3,3	0,7	0,2	100,0

Annex 5d Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (Far North))

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									
	oct-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	total
Single Person	15,9	6,4	3,9	4,6	6,7	10,2	15,1	19,3	24,3	7,1
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	22,3	55,1	51,9	44,4	37,9	34,0	31,7	30,2	27,8	44,1
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,9	4,9	10,3	13,4	14,2	13,7	11,5	9,2	8,3	10,8
Enlarged Nuclear Family	5,7	13,5	12,0	10,0	10,8	11,3	11,2	10,9	10,0	11,4
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,3	1,5	3,1	4,2	5,4	5,5	5,1	4,5	4,4	3,8
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	1,4	3,2	3,1	2,8	2,8	3,1	3,2	3,5	3,9	3,0
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,4	0,8	1,2	1,6	1,7	1,7	1,3	1,1	1,1
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,5	1,3	1,6	1,7	1,6	1,6	1,6	1,4	1,4	1,5
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,2	0,6	1,1	1,3	1,3	1,2	0,9	0,6	0,8
Simple Single Parent	7,7	5,7	8,1	10,2	9,1	6,9	5,5	5,4	5,2	7,9
Enlarged Single Parent	20,1	4,8	2,7	3,8	5,2	6,3	7,1	8,0	8,0	4,8
Extended Single Parent	5,0	1,5	1,1	1,6	2,4	3,1	3,7	3,9	3,6	2,0
Composite Single Parent	12,9	1,4	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,3	1,3	1,4	1,4	1,3
Others	7,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
Total	1,6	17,5	23,6	20,2	15,8	11,4	6,4	2,5	0,9	100,0

**Annex 5e Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads
(Littoral)**

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									
	oct-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	total
Single Person	41,6	28,5	11,5	7,0	7,2	12,0	16,1	19,8	27,4	13,3
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	4,8	25,6	38,9	38,0	33,6	23,5	18,5	18,1	15,5	33,3
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,1	0,3	0,6	1,1	1,3	1,8	1,3	1,5	0,6
Enlarged Nuclear Family	1,2	9,8	17,7	15,4	14,7	14,3	14,6	14,3	13,6	14,7
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,3	0,7	1,1	1,6	1,7	1,1	0,4
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	0,4	2,5	6,0	6,9	7,0	6,9	6,3	6,3	3,9	5,8
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,2	0,3	0,5	0,7	1,0	0,9	0,2
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,8	1,7	2,0	2,0	2,1	2,0	1,8	1,3	1,7
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,2	0,1	0,0	0,1
Simple Single Parent	4,8	4,7	8,3	13,3	12,1	9,7	7,7	6,5	4,3	9,4
Enlarged Single Parent	25,8	19,2	10,0	9,6	12,1	15,9	16,8	16,6	17,5	12,7
Extended Single Parent	6,7	4,7	3,6	4,8	6,8	9,3	10,1	9,1	10,1	5,2
Composite Single Parent	6,2	4,2	1,9	1,9	2,3	3,2	3,6	3,3	3,0	2,6
Others	8,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
Total	1,0	18,0	30,7	24,5	14,9	7,2	3,0	0,6	0,1	100,0

Annex 5f Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (North)

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									
	oct-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	Total
Single Person	24,0	12,0	7,5	7,0	5,8	12,4	17,3	20,9	26,9	10,0
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	26,8	48,5	45,7	40,5	23,1	31,0	28,4	27,5	27,1	41,0
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	1,8	6,4	11,1	14,2	9,9	14,8	13,9	12,6	9,8	11,6
Enlarged Nuclear Family	6,3	13,5	12,9	10,9	6,8	10,2	10,1	9,4	9,6	11,7
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,4	2,4	4,6	5,6	4,5	7,2	6,7	5,7	4,2	4,9
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	0,9	2,9	3,1	3,0	1,8	3,0	3,1	2,7	2,4	2,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,6	1,1	1,6	1,4	2,4	2,0	1,7	1,2	1,4
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,7	2,0	2,5	2,6	1,6	2,0	2,0	2,0	1,4	2,3
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,5	1,2	1,9	1,7	2,8	2,3	1,9	1,4	1,6
Simple Single Parent	4,0	3,1	5,2	6,9	4,1	5,2	4,6	5,0	5,0	5,2
Enlarged Single Parent	17,6	5,0	3,1	3,4	2,9	5,6	5,9	6,4	7,4	4,4
Extended Single Parent	4,1	1,2	1,0	1,4	1,2	2,2	2,5	2,6	2,4	1,5
Composite Single Parent	9,3	1,7	1,0	1,0	0,8	1,2	1,3	1,3	1,0	1,4
Others	3,6	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
Total	2,1	21,0	26,7	21,6	14,1	8,5	4,0	1,4	0,5	100,0

Annex 5g Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (North west)

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									
	oct-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	Total
Single Person	39,6	24,6	8,1	5,7	6,6	8,8	11,6	14,1	18,2	11,3
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,4	25,8	36,9	34,2	28,7	23,8	21,5	19,1	18,6	29,3
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,8	1,7	2,7	3,5	4,0	4,7	4,3	3,9	2,6
Enlarged Nuclear Family	1,0	9,0	13,5	12,8	14,4	16,1	17,1	17,1	16,0	13,0
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,3	0,7	1,2	2,1	3,2	4,5	5,6	3,9	1,6
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	0,3	2,3	4,9	4,8	4,7	4,3	4,1	3,6	3,3	4,2
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,1	0,2	0,4	0,7	0,8	1,3	1,1	0,7	0,5
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,9	2,4	2,5	2,0	1,7	1,4	1,1	0,7	1,9
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,2	0,2	0,3	0,4	0,7	0,8	0,2
Simple Single Parent	5,9	12,1	17,8	18,8	15,2	12,1	9,6	8,5	10,7	15,0
Enlarged Single Parent	26,2	13,2	7,0	8,8	12,8	15,1	14,9	15,3	14,9	11,5
Extended Single Parent	11,8	7,1	4,9	6,1	7,2	8,0	7,4	8,1	6,5	6,7
Composite Single Parent	8,0	3,8	1,7	1,9	1,9	1,6	1,6	1,5	1,8	2,3
Others	3,6	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
Total	3,1	15,0	23,9	21,4	16,0	12,2	6,0	1,8	0,5	100,0

Annex 5h Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (West))

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									
	oct-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	Total
Single Person	42,2	30,0	9,4	8,5	11,0	16,5	20,1	21,7	28,8	15,2
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,1	24,8	35,7	32,6	27,2	18,1	14,5	13,2	11,6	26,4
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,9	3,0	4,4	5,9	5,0	4,6	4,7	3,2	3,9
Enlarged Nuclear Family	0,9	9,2	14,4	10,6	9,7	9,1	9,8	11,1	9,4	10,6
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,4	1,0	1,8	3,1	3,8	4,4	4,3	3,3	2,2
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	0,2	2,8	5,4	4,7	4,2	3,7	3,8	4,1	3,4	4,2
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,1	0,4	0,8	1,3	1,6	1,9	2,3	1,7	0,9
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,8	1,7	1,6	1,2	1,0	0,7	0,7	0,5	1,2
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,2	0,3	0,4	0,4	0,4	0,4	0,3	0,3
Simple Single Parent	6,6	10,7	17,7	19,2	13,8	8,2	5,7	4,8	5,4	13,4
Enlarged Single Parent	28,7	13,0	6,4	9,0	13,5	20,0	21,3	20,9	20,3	13,2
Extended Single Parent	7,2	3,9	3,1	4,8	6,9	10,4	10,6	9,7	10,2	6,2
Composite Single Parent	5,7	3,5	1,5	1,7	1,9	2,2	2,2	2,1	1,8	2,1
Others	5,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
Total	2,1	12,8	20,7	20,9	17,3	13,7	8,8	2,9	0,8	100,0

Annex 5i Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (South)

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									
	oct-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	Total
Single Person	22,2	18,0	11,2	9,5	9,9	12,3	15,6	17,9	21,6	13,2
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	5,9	35,1	39,6	33,3	26,8	23,8	22,8	24,6	19,7	30,9
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,3	0,6	0,9	1,2	1,3	1,6	1,5	1,4	0,8
Enlarged Nuclear Family	1,6	9,2	13,7	13,6	14,3	13,5	13,2	10,2	6,7	12,1
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,1	0,3	0,6	1,0	1,4	1,4	0,8	0,9	0,6
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	0,4	3,3	6,2	7,5	7,6	7,3	6,6	6,0	4,2	5,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,2	0,4	0,6	0,6	1,0	0,9	0,6	0,0	0,5
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,1	1,0	2,3	2,8	2,9	3,2	2,7	2,1	1,4	2,2
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,2	0,3	0,5	0,5	0,4	0,7	0,2
Simple Single Parent	4,6	7,0	9,9	11,6	10,2	7,3	6,3	7,9	9,3	8,8
Enlarged Single Parent	48,2	17,7	9,0	10,4	13,1	15,0	14,9	15,5	18,6	14,7
Extended Single Parent	9,7	4,6	4,2	6,1	9,0	9,5	9,0	8,3	11,1	6,6
Composite Single Parent	4,7	3,5	2,6	2,9	3,1	3,9	4,3	4,1	4,4	3,3
Others	2,7	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
Total	4,6	20,6	22,2	18,6	13,2	11,7	7,0	1,8	0,3	100,0

Annex 5j Structure of Household Heads by Employment Status of Household Heads (south West)

Household Structure	% Distribution Ordinary Household Heads by Age Group									
	oct-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	Total
Single Person	31,7	27,8	13,8	8,4	7,8	9,1	11,9	12,9	10,4	15,1
Simple Monogamous Nuclear Family	3,8	24,1	36,9	35,3	30,3	25,3	23,0	21,6	21,6	30,3
Simple Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,1	0,2	0,8	1,8	2,6	3,1	4,1	5,3	6,6	1,4
Enlarged Nuclear Family	1,0	7,9	14,2	14,5	15,2	16,9	17,1	18,0	17,2	12,9
Elarged Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,1	0,4	0,8	1,5	2,1	2,8	3,1	3,8	0,8
Extended Monogamous Nuclear	0,5	1,8	4,2	4,7	4,9	5,0	5,2	4,1	4,9	3,9
Extended Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,3	0,5	0,8	1,2	1,4	0,5	0,3
Composite Monogamous Nuclear Family	0,2	0,9	2,1	2,7	2,7	2,7	3,0	2,5	2,1	2,1
Composite Polygamous Nuclear Family	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,3	0,1
Simple Single Parent	3,5	7,0	11,5	14,5	12,9	11,0	8,7	7,1	9,9	10,9
Enlarged Single Parent	28,3	16,3	8,4	8,6	11,1	12,4	12,3	11,4	13,6	11,6
Extended Single Parent	14,7	7,7	5,1	5,8	7,4	8,4	7,6	8,7	7,1	6,8
Composite Single Parent	12,4	6,2	2,7	2,5	2,9	2,9	2,6	3,3	1,9	3,8
Others	3,6	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1
Total	3,1	22,0	29,1	20,7	12,8	7,9	3,3	0,8	0,2	100,0

Annex 6 Number of Children Household Heads by Regions

Region	Number of Children Household Household Heads		Total
	Males	Females	
Adamawa	302	53	355
Centre	485	346	831
East	344	119	464
Far North	701	120	821
Littoral	230	140	370
North	595	74	669
N.West	545	297	842
West	422	246	668
South	393	294	687
S. West	347	294	631
Total	4364	1954	7318

Annex 7: Number of Elderly Household Heads by Five Yaer Groups

Age group	Sex			Milieu of Residence	
	Male	Female	Urban	Rural	Total
60-64	128663	56092	69925	114830	184755
65-69	92358	45510	48630	89238	137868
70-74	71268	36051	32944	74375	107319
75-79	37738	18590	17193	39135	56328
3è âge	330027	156243	168692	317578	486270
80-84	23397	12306	9445	26258	35703
85-89	9017	4431	3579	9869	13448
90-94	4451	2149	1490	5110	6600
95-98	4604	2958	1612	5950	7562
4è âge	41469	21844	16126	47187	63313
Total	371496	178087	184818	364765	549583

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