



# Republic OF Liberia

2008 Population and Housing Census

## Highlights

### 2008 Population and Housing Census

The enumeration of the 2008 Population and Housing Census started on March 21 and ended on March 30, 2008 by the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS). This is a ten yearly activity aimed at benchmarking data on demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population of Liberia.

This flyer highlights results from the census such as: population size; population density; number of households; population distribution by sex; and it also briefly presents household and housing characteristics.

**Table 1. Population Trend, 1962-2008**

Year of Census	Total Population	Population change	Annual rate of growth
2008	3,476,608	1,374,980	2.1
1984	2,101,628	598,260	3.4
1974	1,503,368	486,925	3.3
1962	1,016,443		

**Table 2. Population Distribution by Sex**

2008	Male	Female	Total
Urban	802092	831627	1633719
Rural	937853	905036	1842889
Total	1739945	1736663	3476608

**Table 3. Average Household Size and number of households**

	Average household size	Number of Households
2008	5.1	670,295
1984	6.1	



**Table 4. Population Distribution by County**

County	Population
Bomi	84,119
Bong	333,481
Gbarpolu	83,388
Grand Bassa	221,693
Grand Cape Mount	127,076
Grand Gedeh	125,258
Grand Kru	57,913
Lofa	276,863
Margibi	209,923
Maryland	135,938
Montserrado	1,118,241
Nimba	462,026
River Cess	71,509
River Gee	66,789
Sinoe	102,391
Liberia	3,476,608

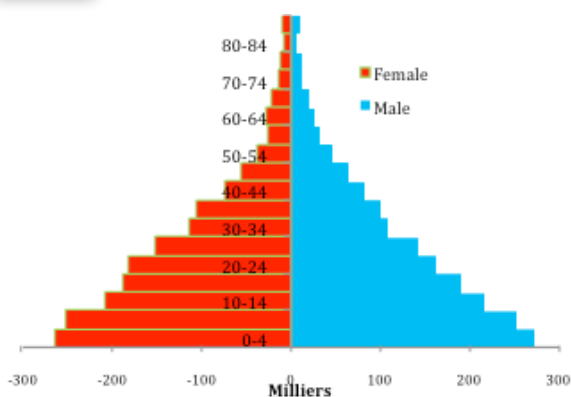
**Table 5. Population Distribution by Sex and Age**

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
0-19	926,241	907,526	1,833,767
20-39	509,419	548,537	1,057,956
40-59	221,342	192,602	413,944
60-79	68,646	72,650	141,296
80+	14,297	15,348	29,645
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,739,945</b>	<b>1,736,663</b>	<b>3,476,608</b>

**Table 6. Distribution of Special\* Population**

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
0-19	11918	12038	23956
20-39	12295	7083	19378
40-59	3781	2301	6082
60-79	848	744	1592
80+	208	151	359
Total	29050	22317	51367

\*Institutional or floating

**Figure 1.** Population Pyramid by 5-year age groups**Table 7.** Distribution of Displaced Population by Resettlement Status by Sex

	Resettled	Not Resettled	Don't Know	Total
Total	741,614	95,657	6,825	844,096
Urban	319,723	55,287	4,037	379,047
Rural	421,891	40,370	2,788	465,049
<b>Male</b>				
Total	360,596	47,592	3,359	411,547
Urban	154,168	26,965	1,965	183,098
Rural	206,428	20,627	1,394	228,449
<b>Female</b>				
Total	381,018	48,065	3,466	432,549
Urban	165,555	28,322	2,072	195,949
Rural	215,463	19,743	1,394	236,600

**Table 8.** Population Distribution by Sex of Head by Sex of members

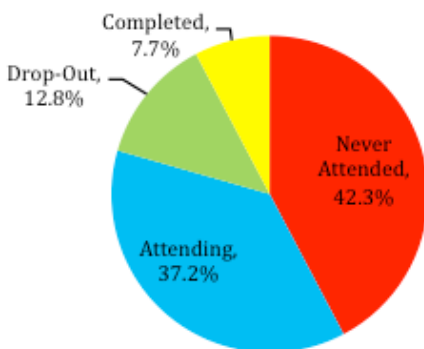
Sex of members	Headship			
	Male		Female	
	Number	%	Number	%
All	2,581,044	75.4	844,197	24.6
Male	1,378,790	80.6	332,105	19.4
Female	1,202,254	70.1	512,092	29.9

**Table 9.** Distribution of Household Heads by Literacy Status

	Literate		Not Literate	
	Number	%	Number	%
All	361,103	53.9	309,192	46.1
Male	300,193	61.4	189,107	38.6
Female	60,910	33.7	120,085	66.3

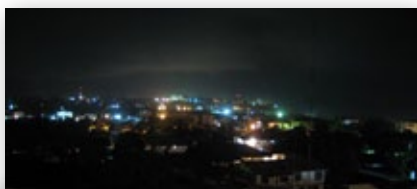
**Table 10.** Distribution of Population age 10 years and over by Marital Status

	All	Male	Female
Never Married	1,186,347	646,235	540,112
Monogamous	898,293	404,327	493,966
Polygamous	66,478	32,518	33,960
Separated	42,931	22,133	20,798
Divorced	28,748	13,526	15,222
Widowed	82,018	10,212	71,806
Consensual	135,387	89,019	46,368

**Figure 2.** Percent distribution of population 5 years and over by school attendance

**Table 11. Selected national indicators**

INDICATOR	VALUE	UNIT
Total Population	3,476,608	Number
Male population	1,739,945	Number
Female population	1,736,663	Number
Total Urban Population	1,633,719	Number
Total Rural Population	1,842,889	Number
Total Households	670,295	Number
Population growth rates	2.1	Percent
Average Household Size	5.1	Number
Sex Ratio	100.2	Number
Population Density/sq mile	90	Number
Crude birth	43.0	Per 1,000 population
Dependency ratio	83	Per 1,000 population
Total Fertility rate	5.8	Per woman
Infant mortality rate	78	Per 1,000 live births
Male	81	
Female	74	
Under 5 mortality rate	119	Per 1,000 live births
Male	125	
Female	112	
Child mortality	41.0	Per 1,000 live births
Literacy rates (6 yrs +)	55.9	Percent
Literacy rates (15-24 years)	69.2	Percent
Net primary enrolment rate	61.4	Percent



**Table 12. Population of County Headquarters**

County	County Headquarters	Male	Female	Total
Bomi	Tubmanburg	7384	7192	14576
Bong	Gbarnga	27297	29689	56986
Cape Mount	Robertsport	1791	1724	3515
Gbarpolu	Bopolu	1549	1363	2912
Grand Bassa	Buchanan	24685	25560	50245
Grand Gedeh	Zwedru	12564	12785	25349
Grand Kru	Barclayville	1583	1525	3108
Lofa	Voinjama	7609	7660	15269
Margibi	Kakata	16780	17828	34608
Maryland	Harper	11793	11724	23517
Montserrado	Bensonille	254	266	520
Nimba	Sanniquellie	5613	6241	11854
River Cess	Cestos City	1262	1127	2389
River Gee	Fish Town	1801	1765	3566
Sinoe	Greenville	6698	6672	13370
<b>Total</b>		<b>128663</b>	<b>133121</b>	<b>261784</b>



**Table 13.** Urban areas of 5,000 or more persons  
(Rank Order)

City/Town	County	Male	Female	Total
Monrovia	Montserrado	500976	520786	1021762
Gbarnga	Bong	27297	29689	56986
Buchanan	Grand Bassa	24685	25560	50245
Ganta	Nimba	20258	21819	42077
Kakata	Margibi	16780	17828	34608
Zwedru	Grand Gedeh	12564	12785	25349
Harbel	Margibi	12828	12481	25309
Harper	Maryland	11793	11724	23517
Pleebo	Maryland	11599	11865	23464
Foya	Lofa	10287	10282	20569
Voinjama	Lofa	7609	7660	15269
Tubmanburg	Bomi	7384	7192	14576
Saclepea	Nimba	6631	7159	13790
Greenville	Sinoe	6698	6672	13370
Sanniquellie	Nimba	5613	6241	11854
Karnplay	Nimba	2662	2923	5585
Zorzor	Lofa	2729	2848	5577
<b>Total</b>		<b>688393</b>	<b>715514</b>	<b>1403907</b>

