

2009 National Census of Population and Housing



Summary Release



Vanuatu National Statistics Office Minstry of Finance and Economic Management Port Vila Vanuatu

Release date: 31st August 2009









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CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING 2009 RELEASE

(Vanuatu National Statistics Office, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, 31 August 2010)

"Vanuatu hemi kaontem yu"

2009 CENSUS RELEASE SPEECH

Good afternoon representatives from <<government ministries and agencies, non-government organisations, donor agencies, the media>>, and it is an honour and a privilege for me to welcome you all here today for this historic occasion and the launching of the Census of Population and Housing 2009 basic counts.

Ladies and gentlemen

In November of last year everyone in Vanuatu participated in the national Census to provide the basic demographic, social and household information that forms the backbone of a large number of statistics used for government planning and decision making. Officers from the Vanuatu National Statistics Office interviewed every member of every household from Hiu, the northern most island of Vanuatu, to Aneityum in the south. This would not have been possible without the invaluable financial and technical assistance provided from UNFPA, and the Governments of Australia and New Zealand as well as that from regional institutions such as SPC in Noumea.

Over the past 9 months the Vanuatu National Statistics Office has been working very hard to translate the information collected in the Census questionnaires to computerised databases to allow for the full analysis of the population and housing of Vanuatu. Ladies and gentlemen

I am very proud to stand before you all today and provide you all information from the 2009 Census for the first time. Our population is now 234,023, which represents an average annual growth rate of 2.3 percent per year since the last Census in 1999.

We all know that our urban centres and municipalities are growing at a fast rate and since 1999 the urban population has increased by 42 percent or an average of 3.5 percent per year since 1999; or about 1,400 people a year. These Census figures do not reflect the recent evolution of Lenakel into a municipality or urban area to enable comparison with the 1999 Census.

The population in rural areas is increasing as well, but not as fast as the rate in urban areas. Since 1999 the rural population has increased by 21 percent or 1.9 percent on average each year which is about 2,750 people a year.

The overall proportion of the population living in rural areas has decreased slightly since 1999, with 76 percent of the population now living in rural areas compared with 79 percent in 1999.

From the 2009 Census it is very interesting to note that Torba, the northern most province has one of the highest average annual growth rates outside of Shefa and Sanma. On average every year since 1999 the population of Torba has increased by 1.9 percent. The province with the fastest annual growth rate since the 1999 Census is Shefa which has increased on average by 3.7 percent each year, and this includes Port Vila.

The 2009 Census counted Vanuatu's population living in 47,373 households which means that, on average, 4.8 people live in each household in Vanuatu. This is a decrease from 5.1 people on average per household in 1999.

These basic population counts are very important for monitoring progress against basic development goals and the 2009 Census results clearly show that regardless of location Vanuatu will continue to face the challenges of population growth in both urban and rural areas for some time to come.

This is the first of many such 2009 Census releases the Ministry of finance and economic Management will be holding. As more information is finalised from the 2009 Census I have asked that the newly appointed Government Statistician, Mr Simil Johnson, and his team make us all aware of it. Incidentally, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Simil on his recent permanent appointment to the Government Statistician post which he has been filling for over four years.

Ladies and gentlemen

In closing again I want to remind of the importance of the population and housing census statistics to Vanuatu and want to thank again all the people involved in the Census who can justifiably be proud of their achievements in the population counts released here today: the Zone Curriculum Advisors from the Ministry of Education who provided supervision of the data collection activities; the Census interviewers for their efforts in conducting the interviews and completing the census questionnaires, the National Statistics Office staff in the Census project who through the magic of Information Technology (IT) converted the paper questionnaires into the database and finally, last but in no means least, every man, woman and child in Vanuatu who participated in the Census on the night of 16 November 2009.

Thank you.



Hon. Sela Molisa

Minister of Finance and Economic Management Republic of Vanuatu



Official release of the 2009 census on population and housing

On 16 November 2009, the 5th national census of Vanuatu was undertaken by the National Statistics Office.

Taken every 10 years, the census information is an important development planning resource available to Government, Province and Local Administrations, International Agencies, NGO's, businesses, communities and the general public.

Topics include: number of people by age and sex and residence, marital status, religious denomination, birthplace, labour force status, occupation, industry, mother tongue and languages spoken, educational characteristics, number of children ever born and whether still alive, livestock owned, crops grown, housing and household characteristics, and other areas.

This is the first of a series of Bulletins designed to disseminate findings of the 2009 Census of Population and Housing. More information is forthcoming and will be made available in other publications, and in other formats including CD.

A summary of key results shows:

The population of Vanuatu increased by 47,345 people from 186,678 in 1999 to **234,023** in 2009. This represents a growth rate of 2.3 percent per annum.

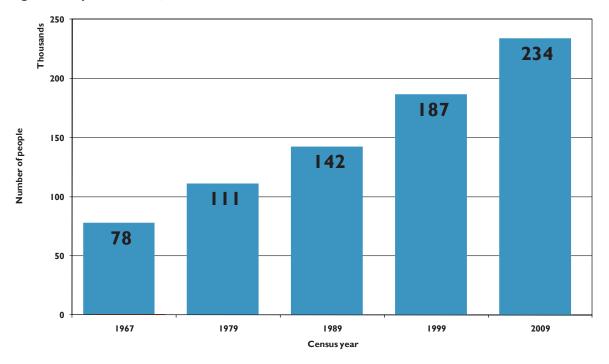


Figure1: Population size, Vanuatu: 1967-2009

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The population count of the different provinces and by urban-rural residence was as follows:

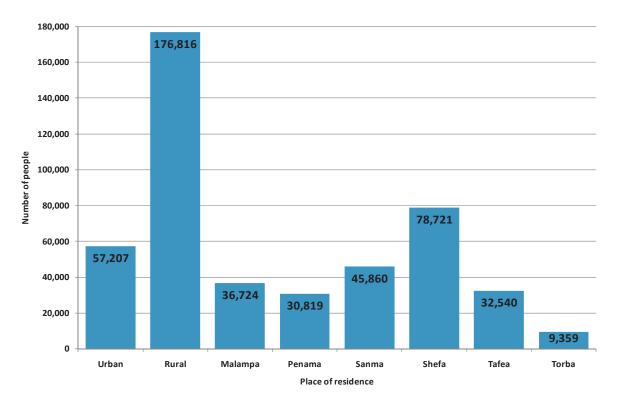


Figure 2: Population size by place of residence, Vanuatu: 2009

The **urban population** was comprised of **24.4 percent** of the total population in 2009, an increase from 21.5 percent in 1999. The urban population increased from 40 thousand people in 1999 to **57 thousand** in 2009. There clearly was an urban to rural drift.

The number of **private households** increased from 36,415 in 1999 to **47,373** in 2009, while the average household size decreased from 5.1 persons per household in 1999 to **4.8** in 2009.

There were 119 thousand males and 115 thousand females counted during the census.

Attached are selected tables and graphs as basic information to compliment this summary release. The final tables will be available in the **2009 Census Main Report** due to be published on **October 1**st **2010.**

For queries, please do not hesitate to contact the National Statistics Office on the contacts provided below or visit the website for available data and information.



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	Total population size							Population change from 1999 to 2009										
Province/ Island		1999			2009		(ii	n number	s)		(in %)		Annua	l growth r	ate (%)			
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total			
VANUATU	95682	90996	186678	119090	114933	234023	23408	23937	47345	24.5	26.3	25.4	2.2	2.3	2.3			
Urban	20726	19368	40094	29624	27583	57207	8898	8215	17113	42.9	42.4	42.7	3.6	3.5	3.6			
Port Vila	15189	14167	29356	22852	21188	44040	7663	7021	14684	50.5	49.6	50.0	4.1	4.0	4.1			
Luganville	5537	5201	10738	6772	6395	13167	1235	1194	2429	22.3	23.0	22.6	2.0	2.1	2.0			
Rural	74956	71628	146584	89466	87350	176816	14510	15722	30232	19.4	21.9	20.6	1.8	2.0	1.9			
MALAMPA	16653	16052	32705	18444	18278	36722	1791	2226	4017	10.8	13.9	12.3	1.0	1.3	1.2			
Akhamb	311	256	567	324	322	646	13	66	79	4.2	25.8	13.9	0.4	2.3	1.3			
Ambrym	3763	3606	7369	3638	3637	7275	-125	31	-94	-3.3	0.9	-1.3	-0.3	0.1	-0.1			
Arseo	152	138	290	0	0	0	-152	-138	-290									
Atchin	377	384	761	357	381	738	-20	-3	-23	-5.3	-0.8	-3.0	-0.5	-0.1	-0.3			
Avock	74	95	169	110	131	241	36	36	72	48.6	37.9	42.6	4.0	3.2	3.5			
Khoti	0	0	0	8	6	14	8	6	14									
Lopevi	1	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	-1									
Malekula	9762	9222	18984	11613	11321	22934	1851	2099	3950	19.0	22.8	20.8	1.7	2.1	1.9			
Maskelynes	425	519	944	482	540	1022	57	21	78	13.4	4.0	8.3	1.3	0.4	0.8			
Norsup	43	49	92	41	47	88	-2	-2	-4	-4.7	-4.1	-4.3	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4			
Paama	785	848	1633	804	823	1627	19	-25	-6	2.4	-2.9	-0.4	0.2	-0.3	0.0			
Rano	129	144	273	155	149	304	26	5	31	20.2	3.5	11.4	1.8	0.3	1.1			
Tomman	136	108	244	132	121	253	-4	13	9	-2.9	12.0	3.7	-0.3	1.1	0.4			
Uri	34	32	66	16	12	28	-18	-20	-38	-52.9	-62.5	-57.6	-7.5	-9.8	-8.6			
Uripiv	224	220	444	180	204	384	-44	-16	-60	-19.6	-7.3	-13.5	-2.2	-0.8	-1.5			
Vao	325	342	667	452	446	898	127	104	231	39.1	30.4	34.6	3.3	2.7	3.0			
Wala	112	89	201	132	138	270	20	49	69	17.9	55.1	34.3	1.6	4.4	3.0			
PENAMA	13724	12922	26646	15543	15276	30819	1819	2354	4173	13.3	18.2	15.7	1.2	1.7	1.5			
Ambae	4882	4536	9418	5325	5082	10407	443	546	989	9.1	12.0	10.5	0.9	1.1	1.0			
Maewo	1656	1515	3171	1805	1764	3569	149	249	398	9.0	16.4	12.6	0.9	1.5	1.2			
Pentecost	7186	6871	14057	8413	8430	16843	1227	1559	2786	17.1	22.7	19.8	1.6	2.0	1.8			

Table 1: Total population size and growth by province, island and sex, Vanuatu: 1999 -2009

		т	otal popu	ulation size			Population change from 1999 to 2009									
Province/ Island		1999			2009		(ii	n number	s)		(in %)		Annua	al growth r	ate (%)	
	Male	Female ⁻	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
SANMA	18676	17408	36084	23625	22235	45860	4949	4827	9776	26.5	27.7	27.1	2.4	2.4	2.4	
Aese	2	0	2	0	0	0	-2	0	-2							
Aore	236	206	442	279	277	556	43	71	114	18.2	34.5	25.8	1.7	3.0	2.3	
Araki	52	46	98	65	75	140	13	29	42	25.0	63.0	42.9	2.2	4.9	3.6	
Bokissa	16	14	30	30	26	56	14	12	26	87.5	85.7	86.7	6.3	6.2	6.2	
Malo	1868	1664	3532	2258	2015	4273	390	351	741	20.9	21.1	21.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	
Malokilikili	9	6	15	8	11	19	-1	5	4	-11.1	83.3	26.7	-1.2	6.1	2.4	
Mavea	100	72	172	104	103	207	4	31	35	4.0	43.1	20.3	0.4	3.6	1.9	
Santo	15923	14977	30900	20371	19235	39606	4448	4258	8706	27.9	28.4	28.2	2.5	2.5	2.5	
Tangoa	188	185	373	199	195	394	11	10	21	5.9	5.4	5.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	
Tutuba	281	237	518	311	298	609	30	61	91	10.7	25.7	17.6	1.0	2.3	1.6	
Urelapa	1	1	2	0	0	0	-1	-1	-2							
SHEFA	28119	26320	54439	40549	38174	78723	12430	11854	24284	44.2	45.0	44.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	
Buninga	78	82	160	75	69	144	-3	-13	-16	-3.8	-15.9	-10.0	-0.4	-1.7	-1.1	
Efate	21895	20233	42128	34099	31730	65829	12204	11497	23701	55.7	56.8	56.3	4.4	4.5	4.5	
Emae	447	403	850	402	341	743	-45	-62	-107	-10.1	-15.4	-12.6	-1.1	-1.7	-1.3	
Emau	347	358	705	293	309	602	-54	-49	-103	-15.6	-13.7	-14.6	-1.7	-1.5	-1.6	
Epi	2343	2211	4554	2627	2580	5207	284	369	653	12.1	16.7	14.3	1.1	1.5	1.3	
Ifira	502	481	983	395	416	811	-107	-65	-172	-21.3	-13.5	-17.5	-2.4	-1.5	-1.9	
Lamen	202	208	410	208	232	440	6	24	30	3.0	11.5	7.3	0.3	1.1	0.7	
Lelepa	181	169	350	203	184	387	22	15	37	12.2	8.9	10.6	1.1	0.9	1.0	
Makira	65	67	132	55	51	106	-10	-16	-26	-15.4	-23.9	-19.7	-1.7	-2.7	-2.2	
Mataso	50	51	101	31	43	74	-19	-8	-27	-38.0	-15.7	-26.7	-4.8	-1.7	-3.1	
Moso	115	119	234	124	113	237	9	-6	3	7.8	-5.0	1.3	0.8	-0.5	0.1	
Nguna	467	492	959	626	629	1255	159	137	296	34.0	27.8	30.9	2.9	2.5	2.7	
Pele	123	97	220	165	156	321	42	59	101	34.1	60.8	45.9	2.9	4.8	3.8	
Tongariki	119	137	256	132	135	267	13	-2	11	10.9	-1.5	4.3	1.0	-0.1	0.4	
Tongoa	1185	1212	2397	1114	1186	2300	-71	-26	-97	-6.0	-2.1	-4.0	-0.6	-0.2	-0.4	

Table 1: Total population size and growth by province, island and sex, Vanuatu: 1999 -2009

	Total population size							Population change from 1999 to 2009										
Province/ Islanc		1999			2009		(i	n number	s)		(in %)		Annua	al growth r	ate (%)			
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total			
TAFEA	14573	14474	29047	16202	16338	32540	1629	1864	3493	11.2	12.9	12.0	1.1	1.2	1.1			
Aneityum	420	401	821	481	434	915	61	33	94	14.5	8.2	11.4	1.4	0.8	1.1			
Aniwa	218	206	424	164	177	341	-54	-29	-83	-24.8	-14.1	-19.6	-2.8	-1.5	-2.2			
Erromango	817	743	1560	969	981	1950	152	238	390	18.6	32.0	25.0	1.7	2.8	2.2			
Futuna	202	200	402	264	271	535	62	71	133	30.7	35.5	33.1	2.7	3.0	2.9			
Tanna	12916	12924	25840	14324	14475	28799	1408	1551	2959	10.9	12.0	11.5	1.0	1.1	1.1			
TORBA	3937	3820	7757	4727	4632	9359	790	812	1602	20.1	21.3	20.7	1.8	1.9	1.9			
Gaua	1026	1005	2031	1262	1229	2491	236	224	460	23.0	22.3	22.6	2.1	2.0	2.0			
Hiu	92	108	200	122	147	269	30	39	69	32.6	36.1	34.5	2.8	3.1	3.0			
Kwakea	0	0	0	12	14	26	12	14	26									
Loh	61	78	139	103	107	210	42	29	71	68.9	37.2	51.1	5.2	3.2	4.1			
Merelava	347	403	750	296	351	647	-51	-52	-103	-14.7	-12.9	-13.7	-1.6	-1.4	-1.5			
Merig	8	11	19	7	5	12	-1	-6	-7	-12.5	-54.5	-36.8	-1.3	-7.9	-4.6			
Metoma	5	5	10	8	5	13	3	0	3	60.0	0.0	30.0	4.7	0.0	2.6			
Mota	337	349	686	337	346	683	0	-3	-3	0.0	-0.9	-0.4	0.0	-0.1	0.0			
Motalava	606	540	1146	716	735	1451	110	195	305	18.2	36.1	26.6	1.7	3.1	2.4			
Rah	73	70	143	95	94	189	22	24	46	30.1	34.3	32.2	2.6	2.9	2.8			
Tegua	17	22	39	24	34	58	7	12	19	41.2	54.5	48.7	3.4	4.4	4.0			
Тода	148	150	298	131	145	276	-17	-5	-22	-11.5	-3.3	-7.4	-1.2	-0.3	-0.8			
Ureparapara	185	178	363	226	211	437	41	33	74	22.2	18.5	20.4	2.0	1.7	1.9			
Vanualava	1032	901	1933	1388	1209	2597	356	308	664	34.5	34.2	34.4	3.0	2.9	3.0			

Table 1: Total population size and growth by province, island and sex, Vanuatu: 1999 -2009

			Change in the nur	nber of priva	ate households
Province/ Island	1999	2009 -	from	1999 to 200	
			(in numbers)	(in %)	Annual growth rate (%)
VANUATU	36,415	47,373	10,958	30.1	2.6
Urban	8,218	11,609	3,391	41.3	3.5
Port Vila	6,115	9,055	2,940	48.1	3.9
Luganville	2,103	2,554	451	21.4	1.9
Rural	28,197	35,764	7,567	26.8	2.4
Malampa	6,483	7,990	1,507	23.2	2.1
Akhamb	123	137	14	11.4	1.1
Ambrym	1,441	1,587	146	10.1	1.0
Arseo	58	-	-	-	-
Atchin	168	173	5	3.0	0.3
Avock	34	51	17	50.0	4.1
Khoti		3	-	-	-
Lopevi	1	-	-	-	-
Malekula	3,659	4,950	1,291	35.3	3.0
Maskelynes	195	217	22	11.3	1.1
Norsup	19	19	0	0.0	0.0
Paama	389	391	2	0.5	0.1
Rano	62	66	4	6.5	0.6
Tomman	46	51	5	10.9	1.0
Uri	12	-	-	-	-
Uripiv	82	91	9	11.0	1.0
Vao	153	192	39	25.5	2.3
Wala	41	62	21	51.2	4.1
Penama	5,371	6,620	1,249	23.3	2.1
Ambae	1,973	2,271	298	15.1	1.4
Maewo	635	781	146	23.0	2.1
Pentecost	2,763	3,568	805	29.1	2.6
Sanma	6,970	9,214	2,244	32.2	2.8
Aese	2	-	-	-	-
Aore	103	109	6	5.8	0.6
Araki	17	30	13	76.5	5.7
Bokissa	6	15	9	150.0	9.2
Malo	709	966	257	36.2	3.1
Malokilikili	1	-	-	-	-
Mavea	32	41	9	28.1	2.5
Santo	5,938	7,865	1,927	32.5	2.8
Tangoa	71	87	16	22.5	2.0
Tutuba	90	101	11	12.2	1.2
Urelapa	1	-	-	-	-

Table2: Number of private households by place of residence, Vanuatu: 1999 -2009

			Change in the number of private households from 1999 to 2009							
Province/ Island	1999	2009 ⁻	(in numbers)	(in %)	Annual growth					
			(rate (%)					
Shefa	10,888	15,930	5,042	46.3	3.8					
Buninga	26	24	-2	-7.7	-0.8					
Efate	8,471	13,190	4,719	55.7	4.4					
Emae	151	154	3	2.0	0.2					
Emau	130	115	-15	-11.5	-1.2					
Epi	926	1,122	196	21.2	1.9					
Ifira	159	147	-12	-7.5	-0.8					
Lamen	93	106	13	14.0	1.3					
Lelepa	77	91	14	18.2	1.7					
Makira	26	23	-3	-11.5	-1.2					
Mataso	26	25	-1	-3.8	-0.4					
Moso	41	48	7	17.1	1.6					
Nguna	217	300	83	38.2	3.2					
Pele	42	59	17	40.5	3.4					
Tongariki	50	58	8	16.0	1.5					
Tongoa	453	468	15	3.3	0.3					
Tafea	5,364	5,853	489	9.1	0.9					
Aneityum	164	186	22	13.4	1.3					
Aniwa	89	84	-5	-5.6	-0.6					
Erromango	254	323	69	27.2	2.4					
Futuna	64	107	43	67.2	5.1					
Tanna	4,793	5,153	360	7.5	0.7					
Torba	1,339	1,766	427	31.9	2.8					
Gaua	345	446	101	29.3	2.6					
Hiu	32	44	12	37.5	3.2					
Loh	29	33	4	13.8	1.3					
Merelava	140	131	-9	-6.4	-0.7					
Merig	4	3	-1	-25.0	-2.9					
Metoma	1	1	0	0.0	0.0					
Mota	110	139	29	26.4	2.3					
Motalava	209	297	88	42.1	3.5					
Rah	29	42	13	44.8	3.7					
Tegua	6	7	1	16.7	1.5					
Тода	43	44	1	2.3	0.2					
Ureparapara	66	94	28	42.4	3.5					
Vanualava	325	485	160	49.2	4.0					

Table2: Number of	private households b	v place of residence.	Vanuatu: 1999 -2009
		, place el l'estacher,	

Table 3: Summary of Demographic indicators, Vanuatu: 2009

Indicator	Vanuatu	Urban	Rural	Malampa	Penama	Sanma	Shefa	Tafea	Torba
Total population	234,023	57,207	176,816	36,724	30,819	45,860	78,721	32,540	9,359
Males	119,090	29,624	89,466	18,446	15,543	23,625	40,547	16,202	4,727
Females	114,933	27,583	87,350	18,278	15,276	22,235	38,174	16,338	4,632
Average annual population growth rate (%)	2.3	3.6	1.9	1.2	1.5	2.4	3.7	1.1	1.9
Number of private households	47,373	11,609	35,764	7,990	6,620	9,214	15,930	5,853	1,766
Average household size	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.8	5.5	5.2
Number of institutions	204	68	136	23	26	61	76	7	11
Number of children (<15 years)	90,973	18,069	72,904	14,674	12,739	18,377	26,092	15,104	3,987
Youth population (15-24 years)	45,423	13,648	31,775	6,210	5,339	9,059	17,733	5,354	1,728
Population aged 25-59 years	83,821	23,386	60,435	12,955	10,377	16,074	31,082	10,270	3,063
Older population (60 years and older)	13,806	2,104	11,702	2,885	2,364	2,350	3,814	1,812	581
Median age	20.5	22.8	19.5	20.4	19.3	19.6	22.6	17.1	18.7
Dependency ratio (15-59)	81	54	92	92	96	82	61	108	95
Population density	19	-	-	13	26	11	52	20	11
Sex ratio	104	107	102	101	102	106	106	99	102
Mean age at first marriage (SMAM)	23.9	24.7	23.6	24.4	23.7	23.5	24.4	22.9	24.0
Males	25.5	26.4	25.0	25.9	25.6	25.1	25.9	23.9	25.5
Females	22.5	23.0	22.2	23.1	21.9	22.1	22.8	22.1	22.7

Fig. 1: 2009 Population pyramid by sex - Vanuatu

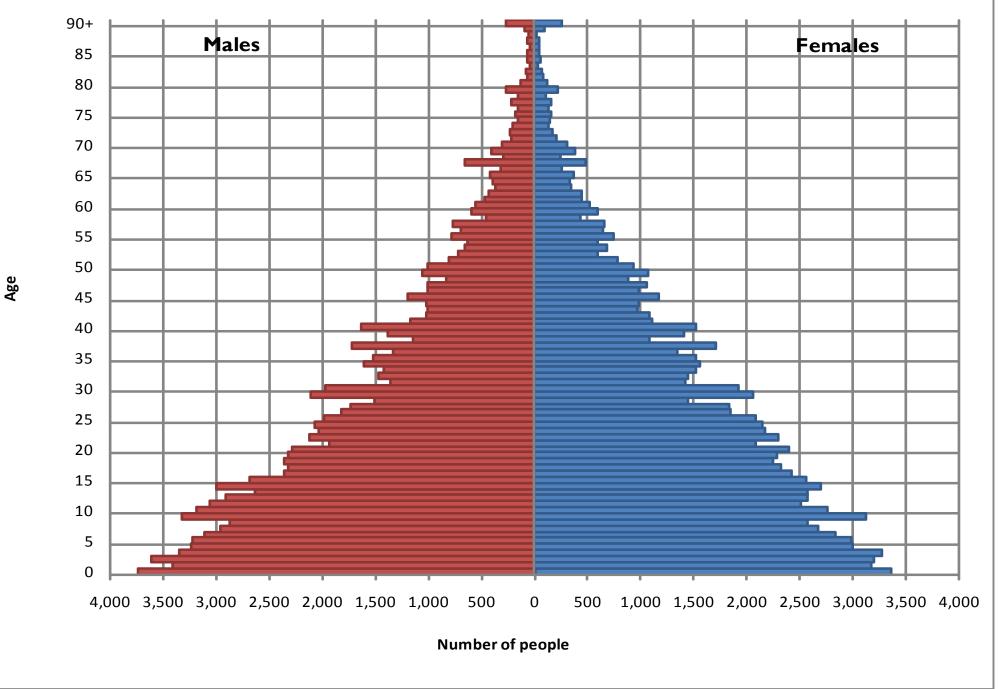


Fig. 2: 2009 Population pyramid by sex - Rural

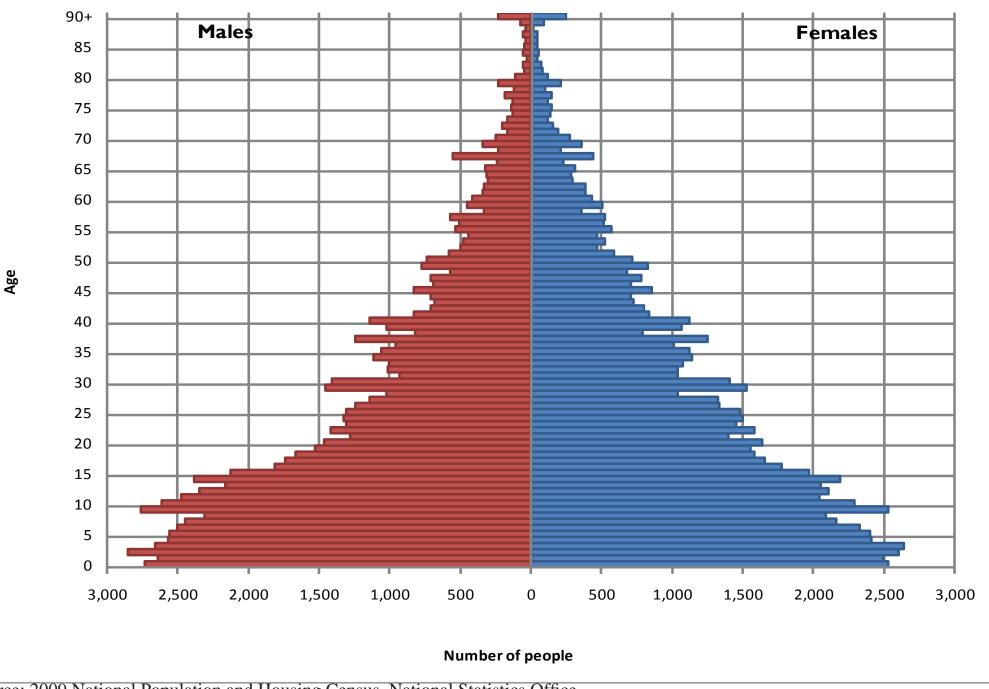


Fig. 3: 2009 Population pyramid by sex - Urban

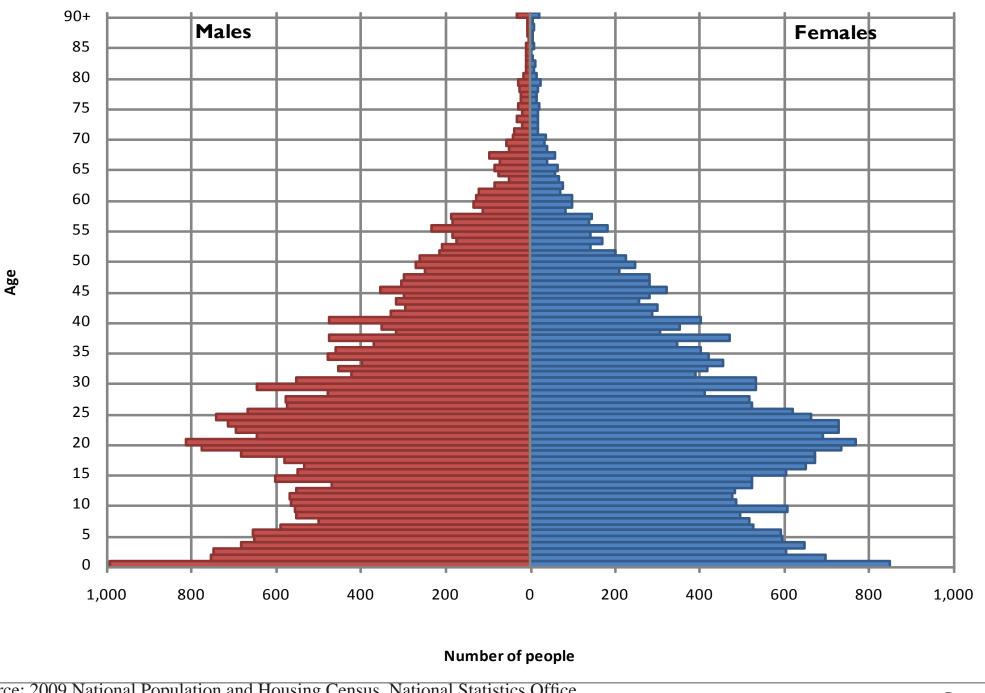
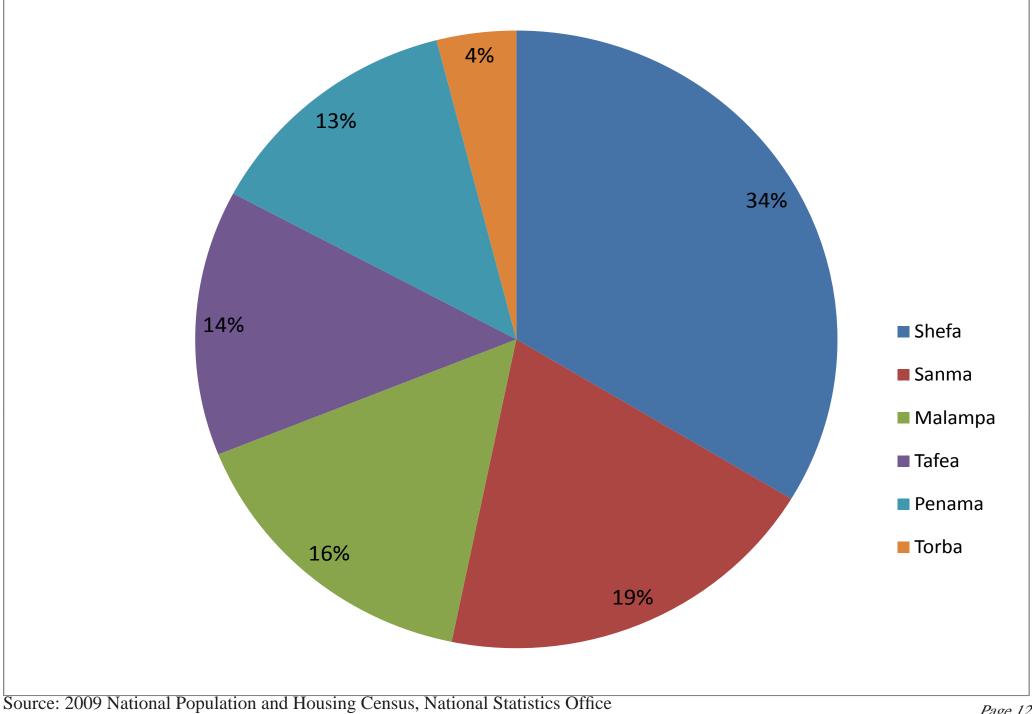
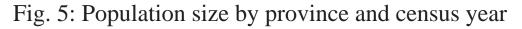
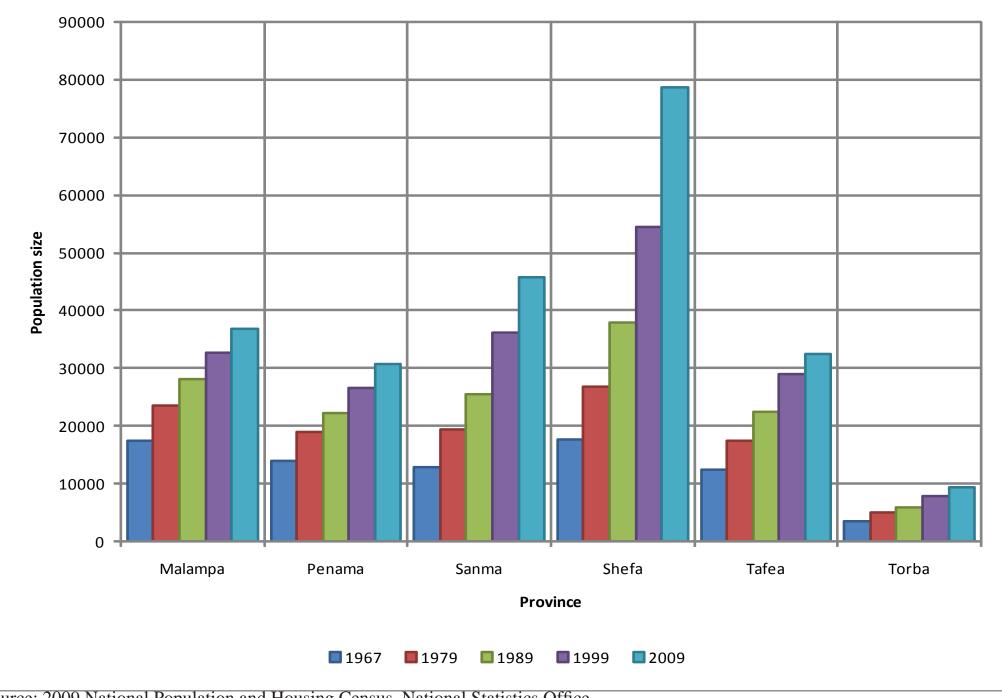


Fig. 4: Percentage distribution of population by province







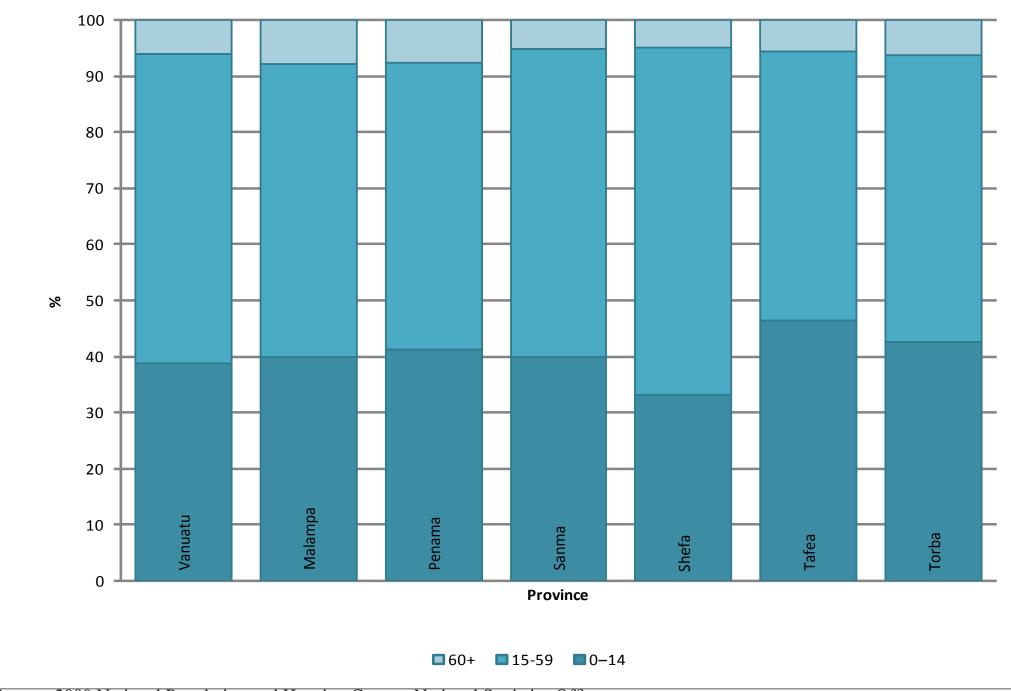
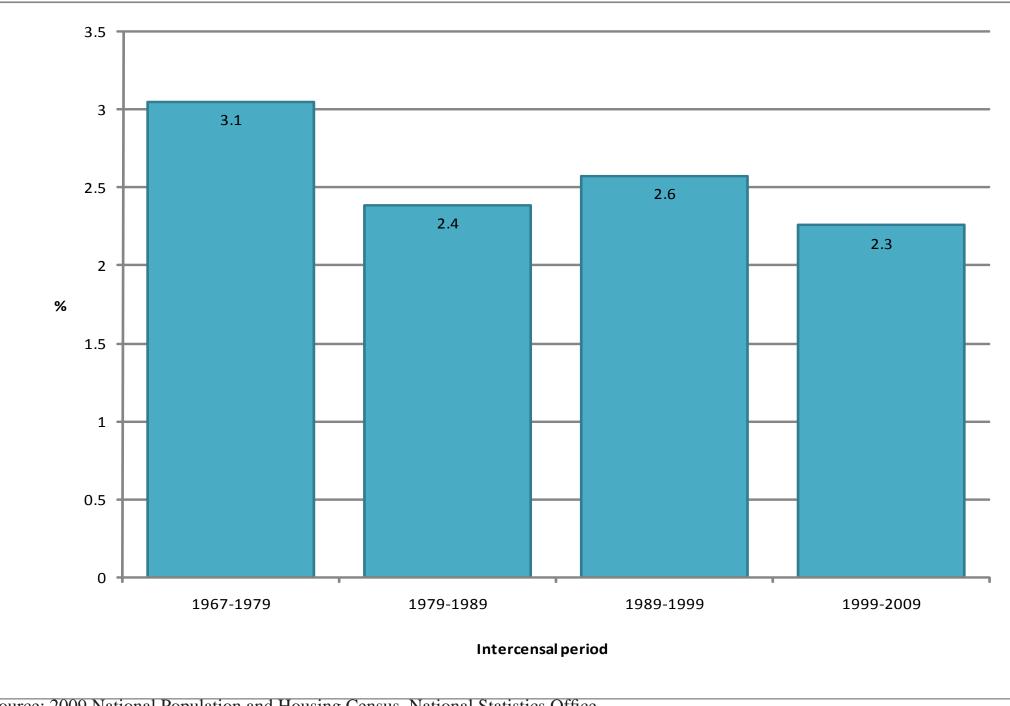


Fig. 6: Proportion of broad age group by province





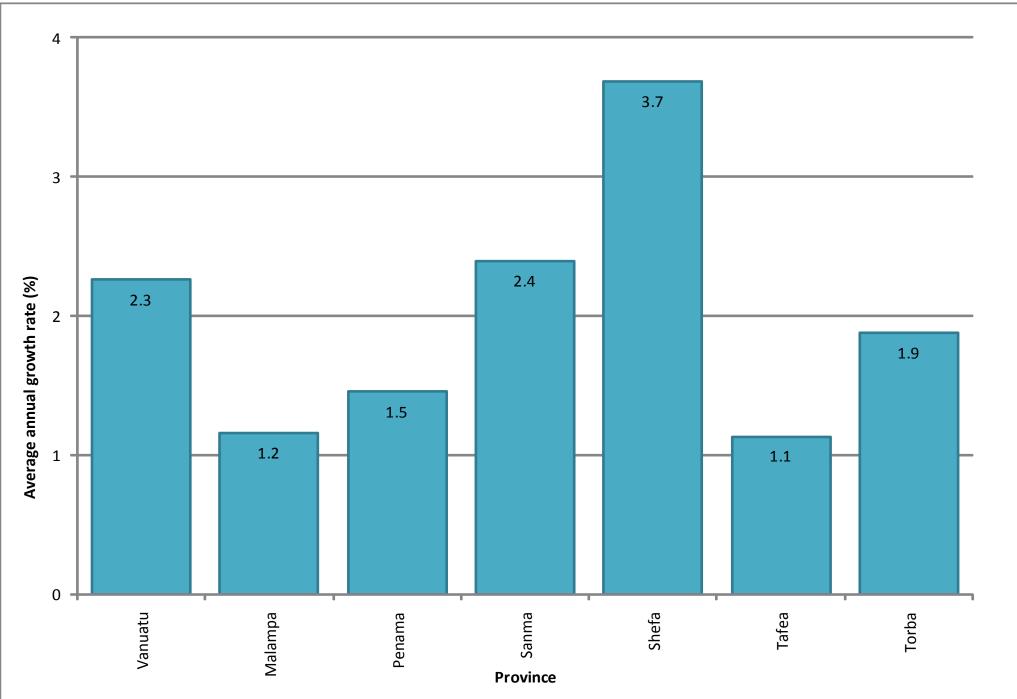
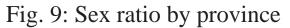


Fig. 8: Average annual Population growth rate (%) by province

Source: 2009 National Population and Housing Census, National Statistics Office



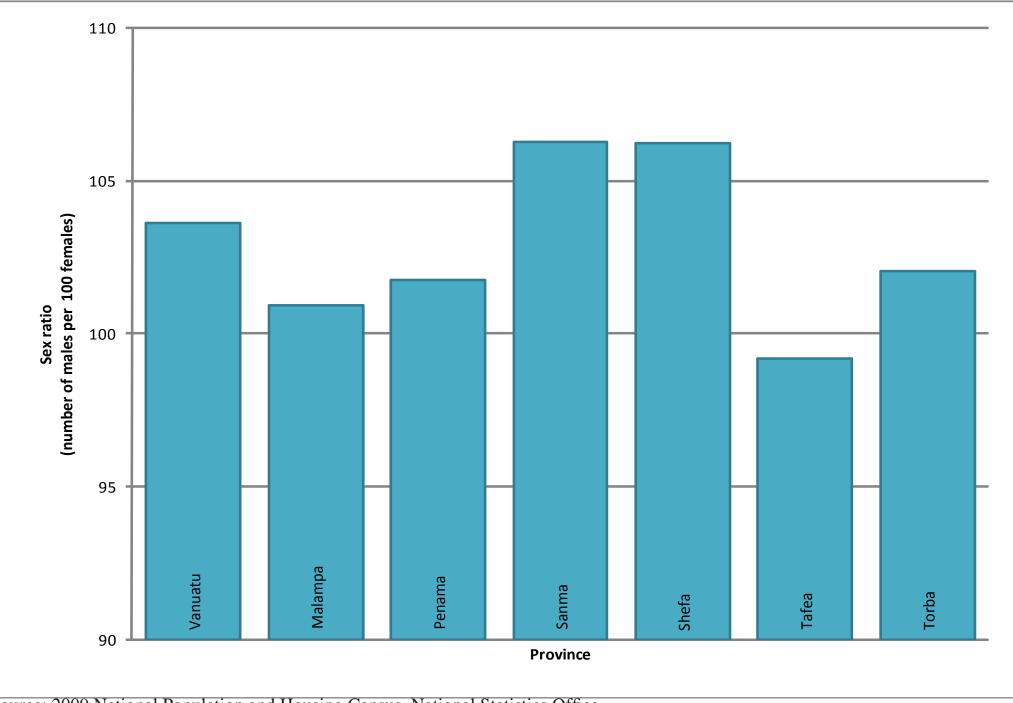
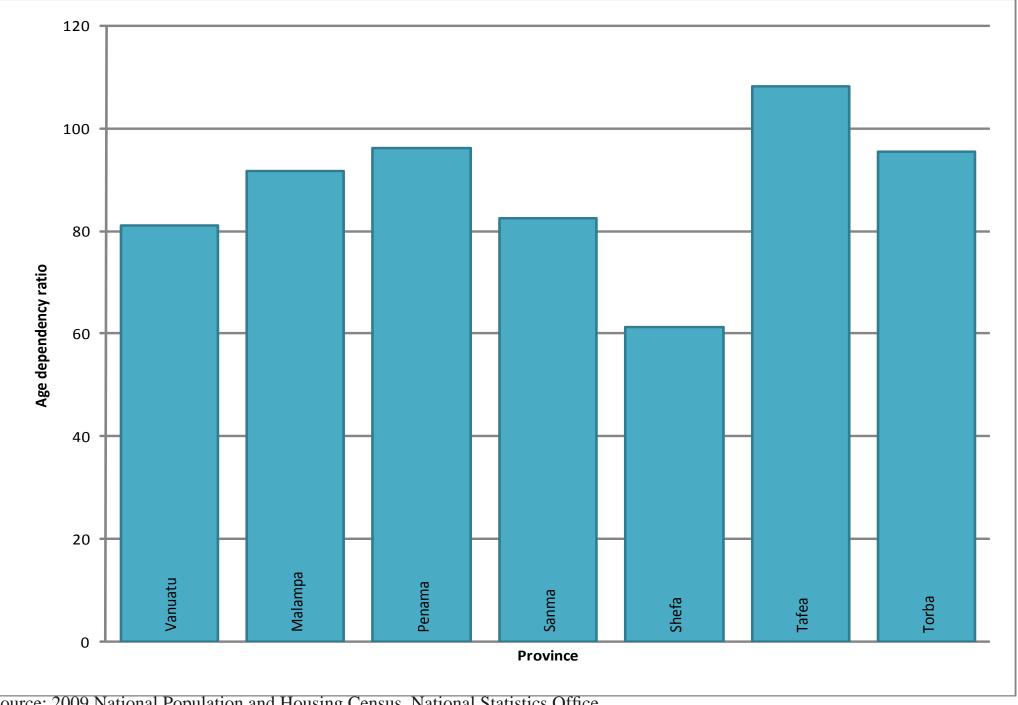
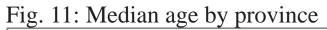


Fig. 10: Age dependency ratio by province





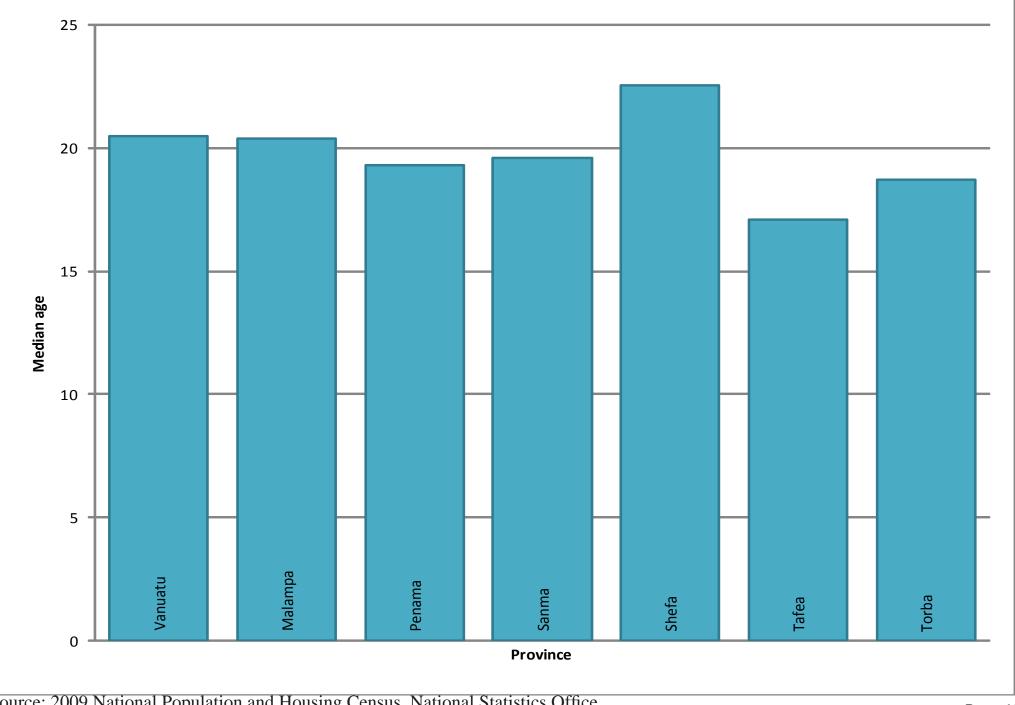
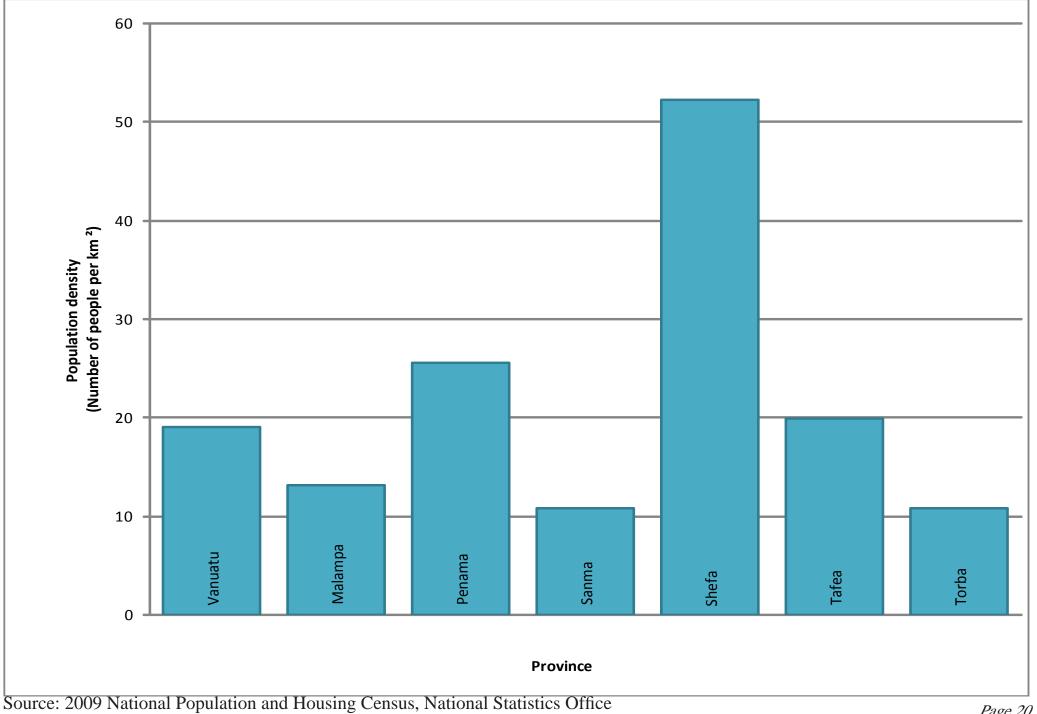


Fig. 12: Population density by province



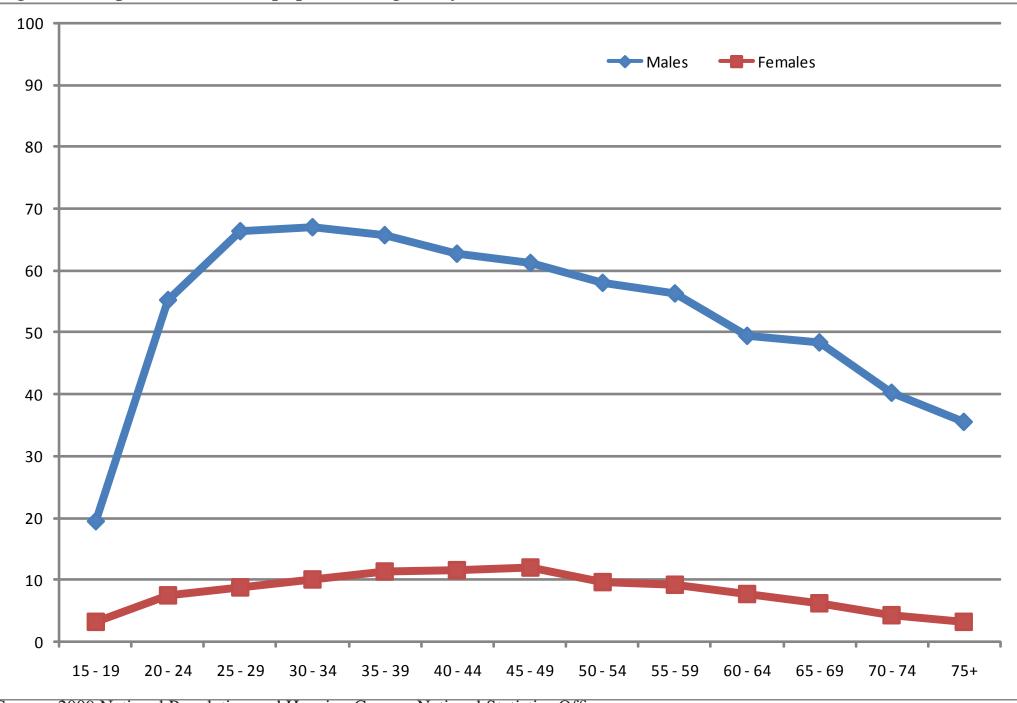


Fig. 13: Proportion of total population age 15 years and over who drink kava

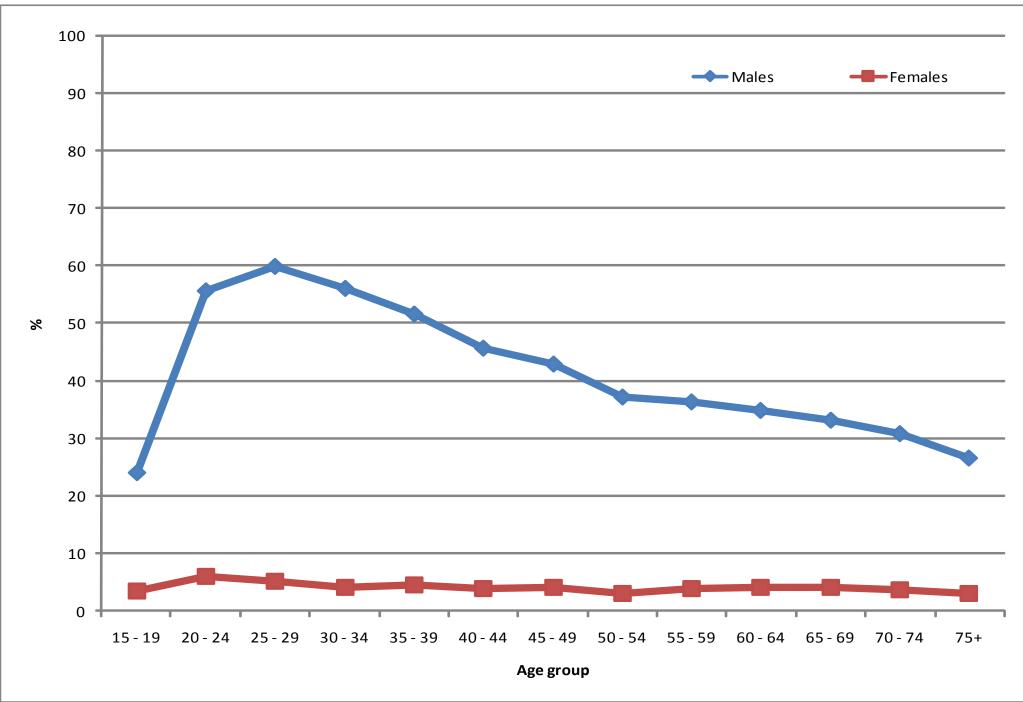


Fig. 14: Proportion of total population age 15 years and over who smoke

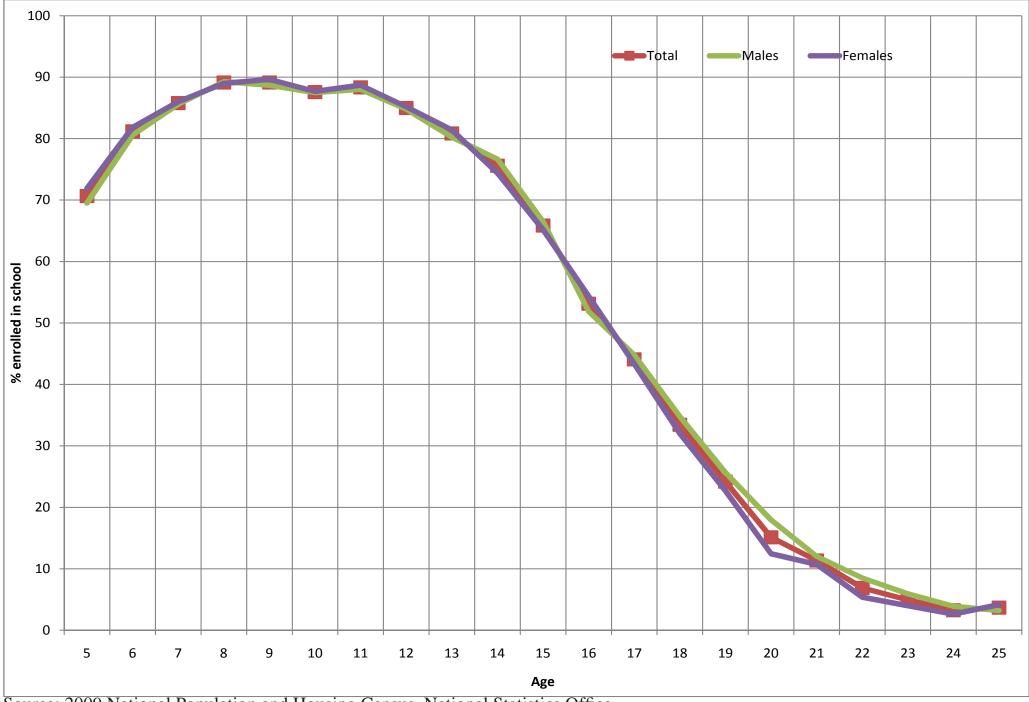


Fig. 15: Proportion of total population age 5 to 25 years old who are currently attending school

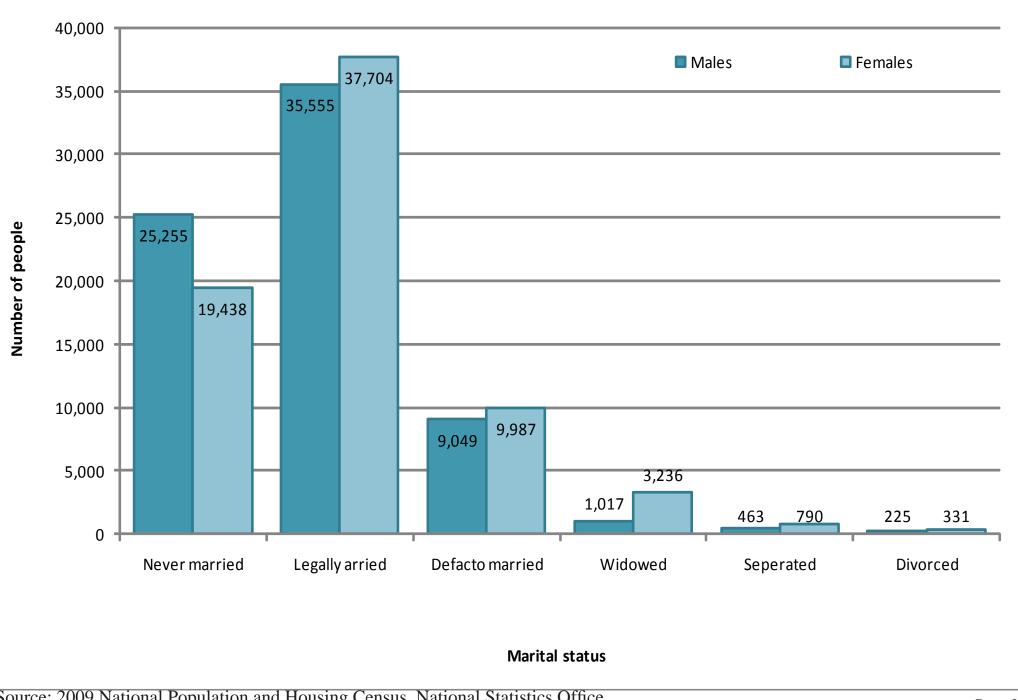
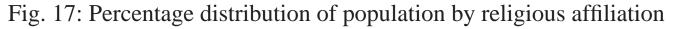
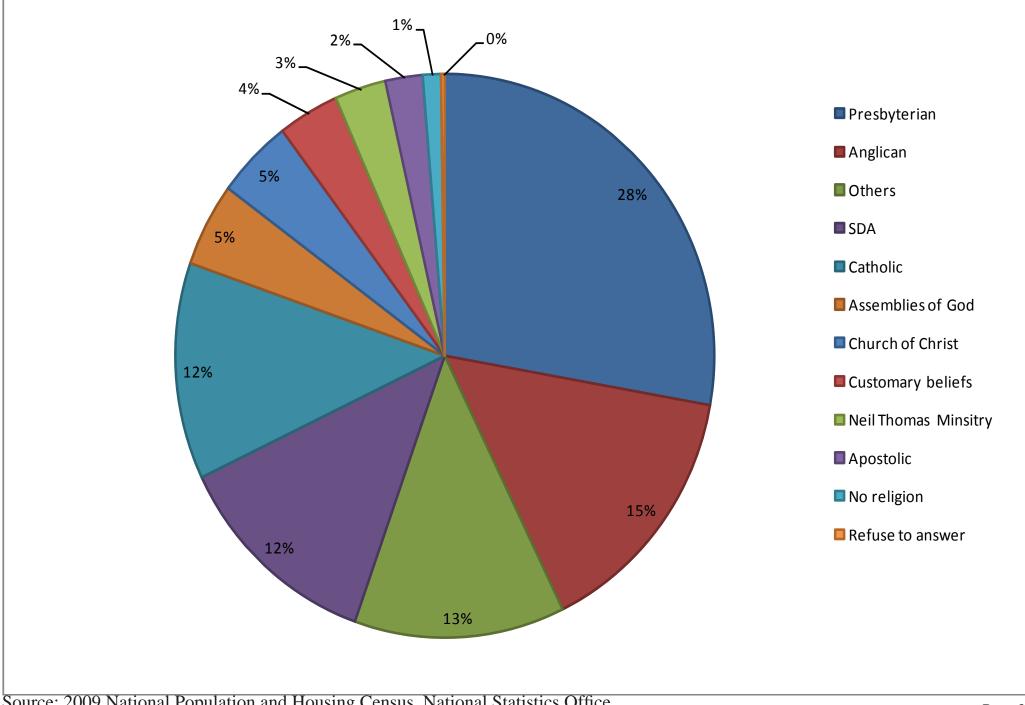
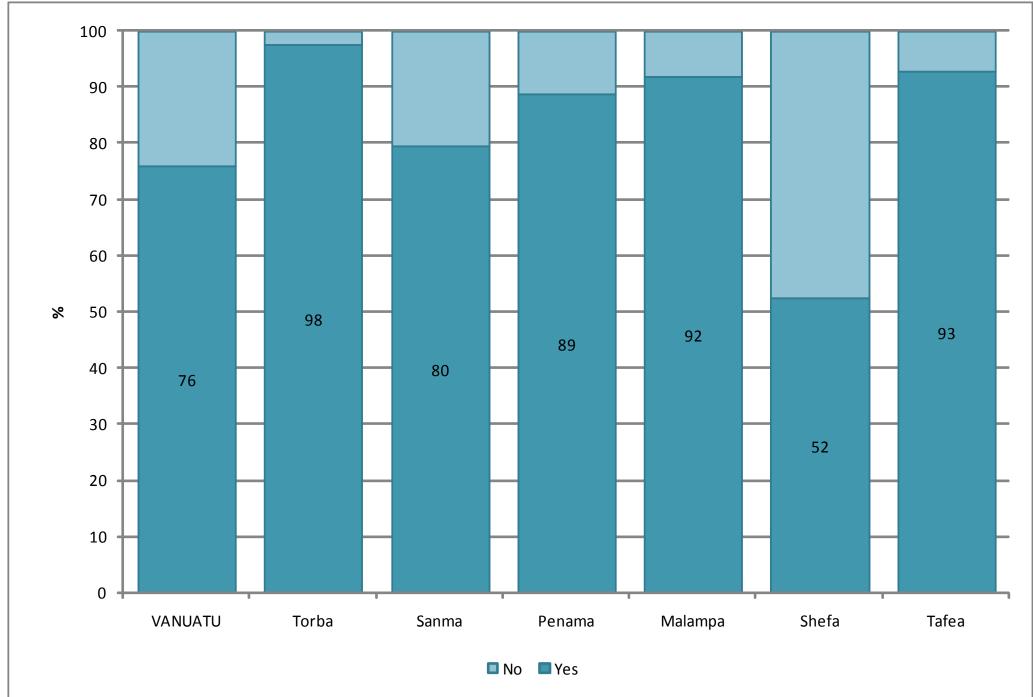
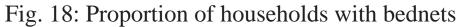


Fig. 16: Marital status by sex for population age 15 years and over









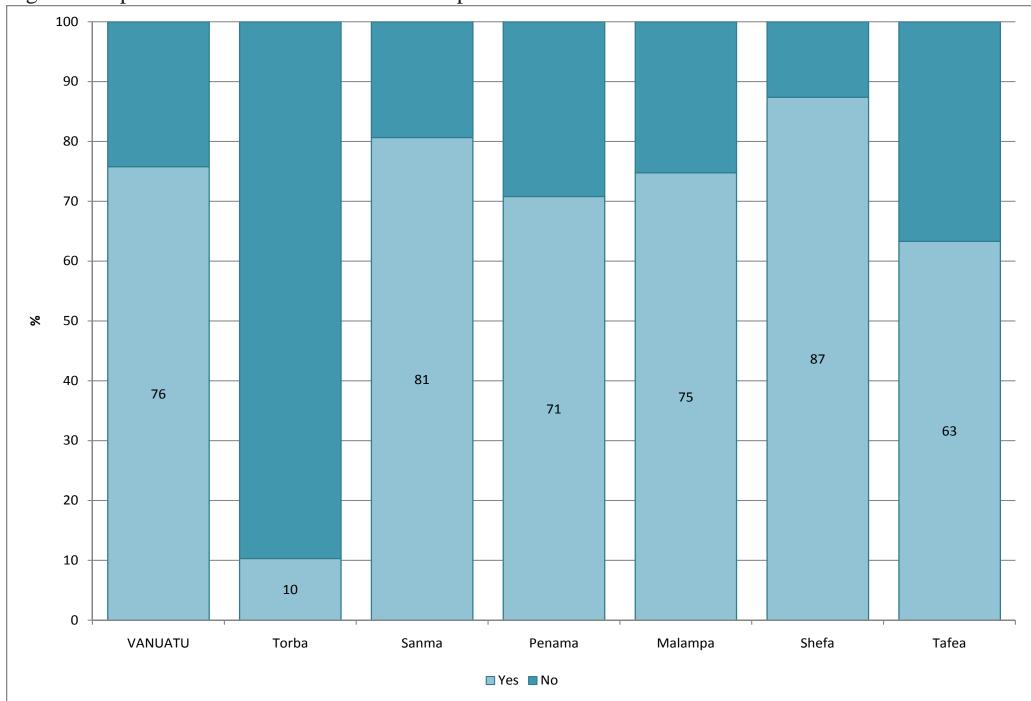
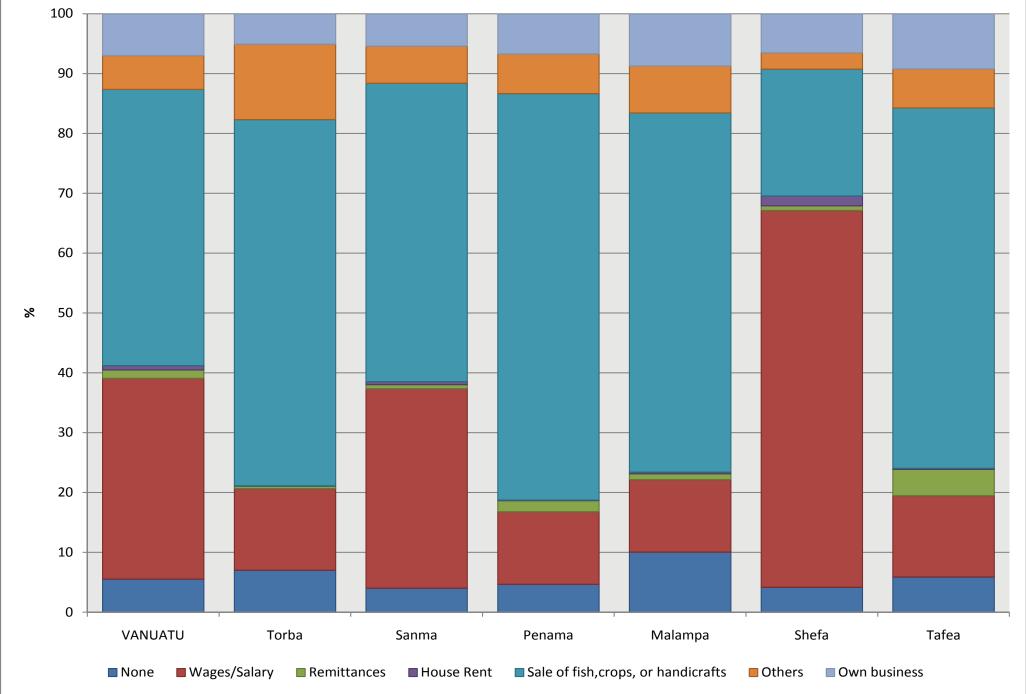




Fig. 20: Source of household income



And the story was...

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