State and Dynamics of Population in the Democratic Republic of Congo

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

SNB: Unmet need
PRSP: Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
HDI: Human Development Index
ISF: Synthetic Index of Fertility
MICS: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MDGs: Millennium Development Goals
WHO: World Health Organization
PRIZE: Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Plan for School Infrastructures
PTF: Technical and Financial Partners
DRC: Democratic Republic of the Congo
REC 1984: 1984 Census
TBS: Gross Enrollment Rate

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FOREWORD

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Introduction
Methodology and data sources
Structure and organization of the report

Chapter 1: THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF R & D

1.1. Introduction

In this introduction, it is a question of presenting the general context of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, insofar as this context can already in itself bear the elements likely to facilitate the understanding of all the statistics that we will have to present in the following lines. As can be appreciated, this chapter is developed by compiling historical documents, institutional reports, survey reports, scientific publications and other relevant documents.

Five sections form the backbone of this chapter. After this brief introduction to the first section, the second section deals with the geographical context of the country where the DRC is located in Africa and the region of Central Africa, dealing with its climate and hydrography. The third section deals with the politico-administrative context, including the administrative organization of the country. The fourth section provides some information on the socio-demographic and cultural context of the country, in particular the evolution of its population and the distribution of the population according to some criteria, the fifth section deals with the political evolution of the country and finally in the sixth section , we examine the economic context. A conclusion concludes this chapter.

1.2. Geographic location

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is one of the three largest countries in Africa in terms of area. It is located in Central Africa, straddling the Equator, between 5 ° North latitude and 13 ° South latitude. Its surface area is 2,345,409 km^2. Its geostrategic position allows it to share a border of about 10 292 km with 9 other African countries, including: the Republic of Congo and the enclave of Cabinda in the West; The Central African Republic and the Sudan in the North; Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania to the east; Zambia to the South-east and Angola to the South.

The DRC has a diversified relief. In the center is a Lowerin which occupies 48% of the national territory and whose average altitude is 350 m. This Lowerin is covered by a dense forest with many marshy areas. Around the Lowerin there are a series of stepped platforms extending into the border countries, with the exception of the eastern part where the plateaus terminate in mountains whose mean altitude exceeds 1,000 m. With this relief, the DRC experiences a hot and humid climate over most of its territory. In the Lowerin, a high rainfall is observed, sometimes as high as 2,000 mm per year. This is accompanied by an equally high temperature with an annual average of 25 °. The rainfall and above all the temperature are lowered as we approach the mountainous terrain of the East.

As for the hydrography of the Democratic Republic of Congo, it consists mainly of the Congo River Lowerin which, 4,700 km long, crosses the country from east to west in its Northern part and from North to South in its part before flowing into the Atlantic Ocean. Fueled by rivers on both sides of the equator, which are resourced in areas with alternating seasons, the Congo River has a regular flow and offers, with its most navigable tributaries, enormous possibilities for the river transport. Influenced by relief, climate and hydrography, the subsoil and the soil also offer important and varied mining and agricultural potentialities. As for the subsoil, the DRC is full of many minerals, the most important being copper, diamond and gold.

1.3. Political-administrative organization

Since 2016, and following the prescriptions of article 2 of the 2006 Constitution, the Democratic Republic of Congo has adopted a new territorial configuration of the country. Thus, the number of provinces has increased from 11 to 26, including the city of Kinshasa, which also has provincial status. Each province has a legal personality, with financial and administrative autonomy.

The provinces are, in turn, subdivided into cities and territories. The cities are subdivided into urban and rural communes and territories into sectors and chiefdoms. Urban or rural communes are subdivided into neighborhoods. The sectors and chiefdoms are subdivided into groups and groups into villages.

In all, there are 145 territories, 471 sectors, 263 chiefdoms and 6095 groups identified and certified by law. The Republic has more than 50,000 villages.

Table 1.1: Differences in the province of the DRC with their capitals and boundaries

Province	Chief town	Northern Limit	Southern Limit	East Limit
Lower Uélé	Buta	Central African Republic	Northern Tshopo	Upper Uélé
Equator	Mbandaka	South of Ubani and Mongala	North of Mai-Ndombe	West of Mongala and Tshuapa
Upper - Katanga	LubumLowerhi	East of Hau-Lomami and South of Tanganyika	Border with Zambia - Source of the Lualaba River	Border with Zambia - Musungushi River
Upper - Lomami	Kamina	South of Lomami	North of Lualaba	West of Tanganyika and Upper Katanga
Upper Uélé	Isiro	Central African Republic and Republic of South Sudan	Northern Ituri and East Tshopo	Northern Ituri
Ituri	Bunia	South and East of Upper Uele and the border with	North of North Kivu	Border with Republic of Uganda

		the Rep. From South Sudan		
Kasai	Luebo	South Tshuapa and Western Sankuru	Border with the Rep. From Angola	West of Sankuru and North of Central Kasaï
Kasai	Kananga	East of Kasai and South of Sankuru	North of Lualaba	West of Sankuru; North and West of East and West Kasai of Lomami
Kasai Eastern	Mbuji-Mayi	East Central and South Kasai Sankuru	West Lomami	West Lomami and South Sankuru
Congo Central	Matadi	Congo and South of the city Kinshasa	Border with Angola	West of Kwango
Kwango	Kenge	South Kwuilu	The border with Angola	West of Kasai and the border with Angola
Kwilu	Bandundu	Southern Bandundu	North Kwango	West Kasai
Lomami	Kabinda	South of Sankuru and Maniema	North of Upper Lomami and Lualaba	West of Tanganyika
Lualaba	Kolwezi	South of Central Kasaï and Lomami as well as the West and South of Upper Katanga	The border with Zambia and the border with Angola	West of Upper Katanga
Maï-Ndombe	Inongo	South of Equator and Tshuapa	West of Kasaï; Northern Kwilu; And Kinshasa	West of Kasaï
Maniema	Kindu	South of Tshopo	North of Tanganyika and Lomami	West of North Kivu and South Kivu
Mongala	Lisala	Northern Ubangi	Tshuapa and Equator	Lower-Uélé and Tshopo
North-Kivu	Goma	Ituri	South Kivu	Uganda and Rwanda
North-Ubangi	Gbadolite	Central African Republic	Mongala and Southern Ubangi	Lower-Uélé
Sankuru	Lusambo	Tshuapa	Lomami and Kasaï Central	Tshopo and Maniema
South Kivu	Bukavu	Maniema and North Kivu	Tanganyika	Rwanda; Burundi and Tanzania
South-Ubangi	Gemena	Central African Republic and North-Ubangi	Equator	North-Ubangi and Mongala
Tanganyika	Kalemie	Maniema and South Kivu	Zambia and Upper-Katanga	Tanzania
Tshopo	Kisangani	Mongala and Lower-Uélé	Maniema	Upper-Uélé; Ituri and North Kivu
Tshuapa	Boende	Mongala	Sankuru ; Kasaï and Maï-Ndombe	Tshopo
Kinshasa	————————-	Congo-Brazzaville and Maï-Ndombe	Kongo CentralI	Kwango et Kwilu

1.4. Socio-demographic and cultural context

At present, it is risky to establish the exact demographic situation of the Congolese population due to a lack of up-to-date data. Indeed, the last census of the Congolese population was done in 1984. However, starting from the figures obtained from this census, the National Institute of Statistics (INS) tries to elaborate projections of population.

The Congolese population grew rapidly, from 21.6 million in 1970, when the administrative census of the country was carried out by the Ministry of the Interior (Vanderlinden et al., 1980) Ministry of the Interior, (1970), to 30.7 million in 1984 (INS, 1992). Since then, for nearly 30 years, the population figures used have come from the projections prepared by the National Institute of Statistics (INS) from the data of this scientific census. Thus, in 2012, the total population of the DRC was estimated at 77.8 million inhabitants, with an average growth rate of 3.4%.

In terms of area, it should be noted that the DRC remains an under populated country with only 24 inhabitants per square kilometer. Only the city of Kinshasa observes a very high density, 577 inhabitants per square kilometer.

One characteristic of the population of the DRC is its extreme youth. The proportion of people under the age of 20 years is estimated at 61% of the total population and under 15 years at 52%. The economically active population (20-64 years) accounts for 37% of the total population. From the standpoint of the distribution of the population by place of residence, the results of the 1984 Census of Population indicated that about 70% of the Congolese population lived in rural areas, compared to close to 30% in urban areas. The latter figure must now be put into perspective, due to the massive movements of populations towards Kinshasa, particularly as a result of armed conflicts, rebellions, growing insecurity and economic downturns in rural areas.

From a cultural point of view, the DRC is characterized by a great cultural and linguistic diversity of its population. It has some 40 ethnic groups and more than 400 tribes, speaking almost all languages. Its population is divided into four major ethnic groups, including Bantu (majority), Nilotic, Sudanese and Pygmy (indigenous population). To date, French is the official language in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It coexists with four other languages, known as national languages, covering the four geo-linguistic areas of the country. Kikongo, spoken mainly in the West, in the provinces of Kongo Central and the former province of Bandundu, Lingala, spoken in Kinshasa and in the Northwestern part of the country (the former province of Equator and Part of the former Eastern Province), Swahili, spoken mainly in the eastern provinces (the provinces of North and South Kivus and Maniema, the former Province of Katanga and part of the Eastern Province and Tshiluba, spoken mainly in the South central part of the country, in the former provinces of Kasai-Eastern and Kasai-Western.

1.5. Political Context

In order to fully understand the post-colonial political situation of the DRC, it is useful to consider the five major periods that marked its historical evolution over time. These are the periods from 1960 to 1965 (First Republic); from 1965 to 1997 (Second Republic); from 1997 to 2003 (first phase of the transition to the Third Republic) and from 2003 to 2006 (second phase of the transition to the Third Republic) and from 2006 to the present. The first period (1960-1965) of the country's accession to independence on June 30, 1960 was characterized, among other things, by a glaring absence of trained elites, due to a demonstrated policy of the colonizer not to form national frameworks (Stengers, 1989, Ndaywel, 1998, Bamba, 2003). The consequence of this situation is that in the aftermath of the return of the settlers, the "indigenous bureaucratic petty bourgeoisie," to use the expression of Bezy et al. (1981, p.53), who served under the colonial regime as a subordinate and who for the most part had barely completed the middle secondary level (3 years post-primary), was given great political responsibilities (Stengers , 1989). Instead of pursuing the consolidation of the state initiated by the colonizers, these new authorities were exemplified by tribal quarrels and legitimate struggles, one of the consequences of which was the dismissal of Prime Minister PE LUMUMBA from his Post by President Joseph KASA-VUBU on 5 September 1960 (Ndaywel, 1998), followed by his assassination a few months later.

The second period (1965 to 1997), which lasted 32 years, was relatively stable following the establishment of a highly centralized and repressive political regime. The few political facts of this period were: the suspension of the 1964 constitution and its replacement by the declaration of the seizure of state power of 25 November 1965; The promulgation on 30 November 1965 of an ordinance granting special powers to the President of the Republic (Gérard-Libois and Van Lierde, 1966), the creation on 22 January 1966 by the President of the Republic, Volunteers of the Republic (CVR), a true political militia in the service of its founder. This militia was transformed into a political party, the Popular Movement of the Revolution (M.P.R) on 20 May 1967. This political party was the only party authorized to function. It was a real instrument of political indoctrination and police repression, of which all Zaireans were supposed to be members since their mother's breast (Bamba, 2003). June 24, 1967, a new constitution was enacted, concentrating all state powers in the hands of the President-Founder of the President of the Republic.

But with the end of the Cold War in 1989 and under the combined pressure of the street, internal opposition and the international community, President Mobutu was forced to initiate the democratic opening of the regime by creating a transition. Initially planned to last 3 years, this first phase of the transition actually lasted 7 years. The causes were the delays in dialogue and social tensions in the form of riots, mutinies, looting and insecurity.

All these disorders served as a pretext for the aggression of the country by the regular armies of Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, etc., with the blessing of a certain international community, eager to get rid of MOBUTU, which became cumbersome (N'gbanda , 1998). Laurent-Désiré KABILA was then placed at the head of this aggression to give it a national character (N'gbanda, 1998). On 17 May 1997, Laurent-Désiré KABILA's troops seized Kinshasa, MOBUTU was forced into exile in Morocco, where he died on 7 September of the same year (Makwala et al., 2001). This is the end of his long reign of 32 years and the second phase of the political transition.

The period that followed (1997-2003) will be marked by an attempt to establish the rule of law, an effort to pacify the country, to establish a system ensuring the participation of the people in political decision-making , Etc. But the new regime was also illustrated by the lack of political openness, incoherence and inconsistency in political and economic choices. This created much dissatisfaction and dissension, even among its own supporters (Makwala et al., 2001).

This lack of internal cohesion of the new regime and the confusion with its sponsors (Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and others) led to the outbreak of a new war on 2 August 1998 by the regular armies of these same countries, once again, in the form of an internal rebellion led by the Congolese Rally for Democracy (RCD), a political-military party of Tutsi obedience (Kalulambi, 1999; Villers, 2009). Several other rebel movements emerged, supported by one or other of the aggressor countries. Among the most prominent were the Congo-Liberation Movement (MLC) of Jean-Pierre BEMBA, supported by Uganda, the RCD-ML of MBUSA NYAMWISI, supported first by Rwanda and then by Uganda, The RCD-K of WAMBA dia WAMBA, etc. (Villers, 2009).

Alongside rebel armed groups and the regular armies of the aggressor countries, several other regular armies from some countries were invited by the Congolese government to fight alongside loyalist forces.

In the meantime, President Laurent-Désiré KABILA was assassinated in his palace on 16 January 2001. He was replaced by his son, Joseph KABILA. Under pressure from the international community (South Africa, Belgium, France, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, the United Nations, the European Union, the African Union, etc.) peace agreements were signed between all the parties concerned with a view to ending the war. The last agreement, known as the, "comprehensive and inclusive agreement", was signed in Pretoria, South Africa on 17 December 2002 (Omasombo and Obotela, 2006, Villers, 2009). On April 24, 2003, a new constitution was promulgated and on June 30 of the same year a transitional government was created, resulting from this agreement.

During the next period (2003-2006), the country's leadership was assured by a government headed by a President of the Republic, assisted by 4 vice-presidents. Each of the Vice-Presidents represented one of the main forces that was in conflict between 1998 and 2003. One of the main missions of this government was to organize the first general, presidential, since the country's accession to independence. These elections took place during the second half of 2006. The incumbent President Joseph KABILA won at the end of the second round against Jean-Pierre BEMBA.

The period from 2006 to the present day is marked by the setting up of new institutions and authorities from the 2006 and 2011 elections. Apart from a few pockets of insecurity, mainly in the East, the country has 'lull. With a few failures, the institutions functioned more or less normally and democracy gradually settled into the political mores of the leaders and the population. But the second electoral cycle organized in 2011 caused many disputes that have plunged the country into a new cycle of illegitimacy as a leader. Similarly, the non-organization of the presidential elections scheduled for the end of 2016 further reinforced the crisis of legitimacy. To date, almost all of the leaders who hold elected positions are out-of-mandate. This situation called for new negotiations between political actors. These days, these negotiations are at an impasse.

1.6. Economic context

Against a backdrop of structural imbalances and cyclical disruptions, the Congolese economy has seen a contrasting evolution, modeled more or less on the evolution of its political situation (Makwala et al., 2001). Depending on the degree of the various crises the Congolese economy has experienced, six major periods can be distinguished: 1960 to 1965, 1965 to 1974, 1975 to 1982, 1983 to 1989, 1990 to 1999 and 2000 to those days.

During the first Republic (from 30 June 1960 to 24 November 1965), the Congolese economy was stagnant due to the effects of secession and rebellions against the central power (Peemans 1997, DRC and UNDP, 2000). This period is also characterized by inflationary surges arising from the monetary financing of increasing government expenditure and the deterioration of its external accounts (Nzisabira, 1997). However, the perverse effects of this situation were felt only very weakly by the fact that the social system and the Loweric infrastructure bequeathed by colonization still functioned (Ndaywel, 1998).

After this first turbulent period, research and development has returned to growth in the years 1965 to 1974, with an average GDP growth rate of around 7% (Nzisabira, 1997, R.D.C and UNDP, 2000). This growth was sustained by the successful monetary reform of June 24, 1967, an advantageous domestic market, solvent domestic demand, high world copper

prices and an inflow of foreign direct investment (Peemans, 1997), Nzisabira, 1997, Makwala et al., 2001). This has resulted in increased job creation, expansion of export earnings, a current account surplus, a moderate increase in prices and a marked improvement in Loweric social indicators. Unfortunately, this expansion of export earnings has provoked euphoria and an excess of confidence which has led successive governments to increase consumer spending and to incur heavy debt, sometimes to finance prestige projects (Peemans, 1997, Nzisabira, 1997, DRC and UNDP, 2000).

The period from 1975 to 1982 saw the consolidation of the already detrimental effects towards the end of the previous period. Indeed, the oil shock of 1974, coupled with the deterioration of the prices for the main raw materials (Peemans, 1997, Nzisabira, 1997), the bad economic choices (Zairianization and radicalization measures taken in 1973- 74) (Nzisabira, 1997) and the unorthodox management of public finances annihilated all the achievements of the previous period. The consequences of these disorders were a loss of confidence among private investors, increased public spending, excessive external indebtedness, rising prices for goods and services, and so on. (R.D.C and UNDP, 2000). Between 1975 and 1980, the consumer price index rose from 100 to 1,350 (Peemans, 1997, p.261). The real growth rate of GDP was negative by -1.9% on average during the period 1975-1982 (R.D.C and UNDP, 2000, p.144).

The period from 1983 to 1989 opened with very slight GDP growth of around 0.8% per year through the implementation of Structural Adjustment Policies (SAPs) with the assistance of the Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Concluded in 1983, the program was to last 25 months (Nzisabira, 1997, DRC and UNDP, 2000). Its implementation has resulted in drastic cuts in social budgets, leading to the breakdown of certain fundamental balances. While some indicators showed slight signs of recovery, the state budget was no longer in deficit, repayment of foreign and domestic debt had resumed, the sudden rupture between the country and the Bretton Woods institutions in November 1986 destroyed all these efforts (Nzisabira, 1997). For example, inflation picked up from 65 per cent in 1986 to 75 per cent in 1987, and the devaluation of the zaire-currency resumed at an accelerated pace (Peemans, 1997, p.278). It was during this period that for the first time since 1960, the Congolese population saw its purchasing power crumble at an almost daily rate.

The period from 1990 to 1999 will remain in the annals as one of the darkest in the political-economic history of the country. The economic and financial situation was marked by a marked deterioration of the fundamental equilibrium. The country experimented over a long period of widely negative growth rates. According to data published in the World Development Indicators (WDI) of the World Bank, the GDP growth rate fell from -6.6% in 1990 to -4.3% in 1999 and inflation peaked at 1,662 % In 1993. It was during this period

that the population lost most of its purchasing power. For example, while in 1994 the monthly income to cover the expenses of a Kinois household was estimated at US $ 189.6 on average (D'Souza, Makaya and Kalendi, 1995, p.230), the inter-professional minimum wage (SMIG) was curiously fixed at the Zaire-currency equivalent of US $ 0.35 in March 1994 (Lututala and Zamwangana, 1998, p.87). The consumer price index indicated a price increase of 642.2% in 1991 alone (Makwala et al., 2001, p.11). WDI data also shows that public debt, valued at US $ 4.8 billion in 1980, more than doubled to US $ 10.3 billion in 1990 and US $ 12.0 billion in 1999.

The underperformance experienced by the R & D during this decade has resulted in rising unemployment and a deterioration in the standard of living of all social strata, particularly the most vulnerable. For example, while the size of the workforce increased from 6 million to 21.3 million between 1958 and 1997, the volume of salaried employment increased from 1.1 million to 981,000 during the same period. On the other hand, salaried employment, which occupied 18.3% of the active population in 1958, now occupied only 4.6% in 1997 (R.D.C and UNDP, 2000, p.70). The plundering of the country in September 1991 and January 1993, characterized by the destruction of production, distribution and transport infrastructures, aggravated an already precarious economic situation and constituted, by their effects, a major constraint for the resumption of economic activities (Bolisomi et al., 1993).

Nevertheless, since 2000, and especially in 2003, there has been a slight economic recovery and a very slight improvement in the living conditions of the population. The country has returned to positive GDP growth rates. This economic recovery is mainly due to the reunification of the country following the end of the war, the resumption of international cooperation, the relatively good state of public finances, a massive injection of foreign currency into the economy by the Fund Monetary International under the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility (PRGF) Program (Villers, 2009). Since 2006, for example, an effort has been made to contain inflation and ensure growth of GDP / capita. The growth rate of GDP / capita was, for example, 5.6% in 2006; 6.3 per cent in 2007; 6.2 per cent in 2008; 2.8% in 2009 and 6.1% in 2010. The inflation rate was 2.5%, respectively; 3.2%; 3.1%; -0.2% and 3.0% during the same period (Central Bank of the Congo, 2010, p.2, Table 1.2).

1.7. Conclusion

The objective of this chapter was to draw a picture of the social, political and economic situation of R & D. This exercise is important insofar as the statistics we have presented are not independent of this context. The examination of this socio-political and economic situation was carried out with reference to a few major periods of the country's historical

development. This periodization is justified by the fact that each of these periods carries a certain context which can directly affect the living conditions of the populations represented by the statistics.

From the examination of this situation, it can be noted that, at the political level, the country has experienced a situation characterized by great instability, with occasional periods of calm. This instability has affected the country's socio-economic situation. If the first years after the independence of the country experienced an economic prosperity, since the mid-1970s, the Congolese economy has been experiencing a multifaceted and acute crisis characterized by, among other things, drying up of public resources, falling investment and imports, population, etc. This crisis culminated in the 1990s, which remains one of the most turbulent periods in the country's political and socio-economic history. Indeed, this period saw, among other things, two plundering of socio-economic infrastructures, two wars involving several foreign armies, two political changes of regime in violence, and so on.

CHAPTER 2: STATE AND DYNAMICS OF THE POPULATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

2.1. Introduction

Demography is not limited to knowing the size of a population, its variation across time and space, but also, and above all, its characteristics. This chapter first considers the general population size and its variations. In a second phase, it studies the distribution of the population according to the different demographic, socio-cultural and socio-economic characteristics.

2.2. Size, density and population growth

The first data on demographic analysis is population size. It always refers to a given moment. This moment can be considered dynamic data because the population varies at every moment. Thus, for example, the population of the DRC as of 30 June 1984 refers to the average population because every second the population varies. Table 1 shows, on the one hand, the evolution of the population of the DRC from 1958 to 2013 through the various surveys organized in the country and on the other hand projections from 2010 to 2050.

Table 1: Evolution of the population in the DRC from 1958 to the present

Year	Changes in Population Size	Sources 3	Population Projections for the Democratic Republic of Congo	
			Year	Changes
1958	13,540,183	Demographic Survey 1955-1957	2010	67,827,000
1970	21.7.000.000	Ministry of the Interior quoted by INS, 1970	2020	87,640,000
1984	29,871,000	Scientific census (INS, 1984)	2030	108,594,000
1997	47,000,000	(INS, 1997)	2040	128,907,000
2004	57,000,000	(INED, 2004)	2050	147,512,000
2007	65,800,000	INS (1992) quoted by EDS-DRC I (2007)		
2010	67,800,000	(DSCRP_2, Min Plan, 2011); TBA: 3.1%		
2013	77.8 million	INSs quoted by EDS-DRC II (2013)		

The results in Table 1 show that the population grew by 60.3% in 12 years (1958 and 1970), by 37.7% in 14 years (1970 and 1984), by 57.3% in 13 years (1984 and 1997),

21.3% in 7 years (1997 and 2004), 15.4%, 3% and finally 14.7% in 3 years respectively from 2004 to 2007, 2007 to 2010 and from 2010 to 2013.

Moreover, these numbers over time are only an accumulation of annual growth rates. These population growth rates represent the variation in the population over time expressed by the evolution of the number of individuals within a population per unit of time. This increase consists of two distinct parts, the natural increase and the migratory balance.

Table 2 compares the different growth rates of the population in the DRC with those of Belgium and those of the world by way of illustration in order to appreciate the extent of this increase in the population.

Table 2: Evolution of the rate of increase of the population in the DRC from 2006 to 2014

Country	**Years**									
	2005	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**
Congo Kinshasa		6.40%	7.00%	6.20%	2.80%	7.20%	6.90%	7.20%	8.50%	8.60%

Source: http: //www.statistiques-mondiales.com/taux_de_croissance.htm

2.3 Structure by age and sex of the population

The age and sex structure of the Congolese population as a whole from 1984 to 2013 can be summarized in the table below.

Table 3: Situation of socio-demographic indicators in the DRC (1984-2013)

INDICATORS	**SOURCE / YEAR**					
	RGPH:I	**MICS 2**	**MICS 2**	**EDS-RDC- I**	**MICS-RDC-III**	**EDS-RDC-II**
	1984	**1995**	**2001**	**2007**	**2010**	**2013**
STRUCTURE/AGE						
Less than 15 years	45.9	48.4	48.0	48.3	48.3	**52**
15 - 59 years	49.7	48.1	48.5	47.8	49.4	44
60 years and over	4.4	3.5	3.5	3.9	2.2	4
STRUCTURE/SEX						
Men	49.1	48.5	49.0	49.2	49.9	48.1
Women	50.9	51.5	51.0	50.8	50.1	51.9

The structure by broad age groups shows that slightly more than half of the population (52%) is under 15 years of age in 2013, compared with only 46% in 1984, which can be

considered an important asset for the development of the country. The proportion of elderly people (aged 60 and over) is 4% in the population as a whole and there is almost a 2% gender gap in proportion in 2013 (52% of women vs. 48% of men).

2.4. Distribution of Population by Province and Population Density

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is a vast expanse measuring 2,345,409 km2, which is subdivided into 26 effective provinces consecrated by the 2006 constitution. It shares 9,165 km of borders with 9 neighboring countries (Min Plan, EDS-DRC- II, 2013).

Table 4 below shows the area and density of all 26 new provinces in the DRC. In terms of population, the province of Kinshasa ranks first (12% of the population as a whole), followed by North Kivu province (9.8%) of Kwilu (6.6%) and Upper Katanga (5.3%).

With regard to density, the province of Kinshasa still ranks first with a highest density of 672.4 per km2. It is followed by the province of Kasai Eastern and North Kivu with a density of 207.4 and 91.1 km2 respectively.

This reflects the rural exodus of the Congolese population after the years following independence and peripheralization of urban cities, especially the city of Kinshasa.

Table 4: Evolution of the population in the DRC from 1958 to the present

No.	New Provinces	Capital	Population	Area/km²	Density[1] /km²
1	KINSHASA	Kinshasa	6700000	9965	672.4
2	KONGO –CENTRAL	Matadi	2760000	53920	51.2
3	KWANGO	Kenge	1428000	89974	15.9
4	KWILU	Kikwit	3637000	78441	46.4
5	MAI NDOMBE	Inongo	1261000	127243	9.9
6	EQUATOR	Mbandaka	1138000	103902	11.0
7	TSHUAPA	Boende	921000	132957	6.9
8	MONGALA	Lisala	1255000	58141	21.6
9	NORTH-UBANGI	Gbadolite	1037000	56644	18.3
10	SOUTH-UBANGI	Gemena	1920000	51648	37.2
11	TSHOPO	Kisangani	1622000	199567	8.1
12	LOWER-UELE	Buta	686000	148331	4.6
13	UPPER-UELE	Isiro	1198000	89683	13.4
14	ITURI	Bunia	2617000	65658	39.9
15	NORTH-KIVU	Goma	5416000	59483	91.1
16	SOUTH-KIVU	Bukavu	3667000	65130	56.3

[1] From the population and area given by Jean-Claude Bruneau, 2009.

17	MANIEMA	Kindu	1386000	132250	10.5
18	TANGANIKA	Kalemie	1835000	134940	13.6
19	UPPER-LOMAMI	Kamina	1878000	108204	17.4
20	UPPER-KATANGA	LubumLowerhi	2928000	132425	22.1
21	LUALABA	Kolwezi	1240000	121308	10.2
22	KASAI-EASTERN	Mbuji- Mayi	1980000	9545	207.4
23	LOMAMI	Kabinda	1501000	56426	26.6
24	SANKURU	Lodja	1007000	140311	7.2
25	KASAI CENTRAL	Kananga	2053000	59111	34.7
26	KASAI	Luebo	2218000	95631	23.2
Democratic Republic of Congo			55289000	2380838	23.2

Source: Jean Claude Bruneau, 2009

Table 5 below presents the projections of the National Statistical Institute on the evolution of the Congolese DR population from 2011 to 2015 by province in the former configuration of 11 provinces across the country.

Table 5: Projections of the Population of the DR Congo and the Provinces (2011 -2015)

PROVINCES	**TOTAL POPULATION (thousands of inhabitants)**				
	2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**
DRC	**75,259**	**77,817**	**80,462**	**83,197**	**85,026**
KINSHASA	9,629	10,083	10,558	11,055	11,575
LOWER- CONGO	4,879	5,045	5,215	5,393	5,575
BANDUNDU	8,443	8,695	8,954	9,220	9,494
ECUARDOR	7,672	7,894	8,121	8,355	8,596
P. EASTERN	8,191	8,387	8,589	8,793	9,003
NORTH-KIVU	5,850	6,042	6,240	6,444	6,655
SOUTH-KIVU	5,073	5,239	5,411	5,589	5,772
MANIEMA	2,050	2,117	2,187	2,259	2,333
KATANGA	11,341	11,782	12,240	12,714	13,207
KASAI EASTERN	6,714	6,948	7,190	7,440	7,698
KASAI WESTERN	5,417	5,585	5,757	5,935	6,118

With regard to the distribution of the population according to the place of residence, it can be seen from Table 6 that the average urban population in the Democratic Republic of Congo between the period 1984-2013 is 30.3% peak in 2010 when it reached almost 33% of the total population.

2.5. Distribution of population by place of residence

Table 6: Evolution of the population in the DRC by place of residence from 1984 to 2013-2014

INDICATORS	SOURCE/YEAR					
	RGPH:7	MICS 1	MICS 2:50	EDS-RDC-I	MICS-RDC-III:23	EDS-RDC-II
	1984	1995	2001	2007	2010	2013-2014
RESIDENCE MEDIA						
Rural	72%	70%	69%	70%	67,3%	70%
Urban	28%	30%	31%	30%	32,7%	30%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Household size is a relevant variable because it provides information on the level of fertility in the country. The results in Table 7 show that the average size per household across the Congolese territory is estimated at 5.3 in 2014. However, there is a disparity between the place of residence. It is 5.7 in urban areas compared to 5.1 in rural areas. Compared to the situation of the past seven years, the situation has remained virtually unchanged even though the population has increased significantly.

2.6. Size and composition of households

Table 7: Changes in household size in the DRC by place of residence from 1984 to 2013-2014

INDICATORS	SOURCE/YEAR					
	RGPH : 6	MICS 1:30	MICS 2:54	EDS-RDC-I:12	MICS-RDC-III:67	EDS-RDC-II:27
	1984	1995	2001	2007	2010	2013
Household Size						
Average	5.4	5.7	6.4	5.4	5.3	5.3
Rural	*	5.5	6.3	5.2	5.2	5.1
Urban	*	6.3	6.6	5.9	5.8	5.7

NB :* to search.

2.7. Conclusion

CHAPTER 3: NUPTIALITY AND EXPOSURE TO THE RISK OF PREGNANCY

3.1. Introduction

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is one of the countries in sub-Saharan Africa with a very high birth and fertility rate. Indeed, the fertility of the majority of women is still natural and uncontrolled, as few of them use modern (effective) contraceptive methods on an ongoing Loweris, and therefore the risks of pregnancy are too high. This chapter analyzes the marital status of the population, age at first marriage, age at first intercourse, polygamy and exposure to risk of pregnancy.

3.2. Distribution of population by marital status

Regardless of the form (civil marriage or common-law marriage), marriage is of interest to most men and women of reproductive age in the DRC. By 2014, more than six in ten women (64.2%) and more than five in ten (55%) of the population lived in a union. The proportions of single women decline very rapidly with age rising from 76% to 15-19 years, 10% to 25-29 years, and 2% among women aged 45-49. On the other hand, the proportion of married persons increases rapidly and reaches its peak in the age group of 35-39 years (63.2%) for women and 45-49 years (79.8% man). Divorce is rare and involves only 2% of women and 0.7% of men of reproductive age. Marriage is therefore almost general among men and women in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Table 1: Distribution of the population (in%) by marital status and age

Age Groups	Marital Status						Total	% of the population in union
	Celibate	Married	Living Together	Divorced	Separated	Widowed		
Women								
15-19	76	13.1	8.2	0.1	2.4	0.1	100	21.3
20-24	32.1	39.8	20.5	1.3	5.7	0.5	100	60.3
25-29	10.4	57.5	22.2	1.9	6.7	1.2	100	79.7
30-34	5	62.3	21.9	2.8	6	2	100	84.1
35-39	2.7	63.2	20.1	4.6	6.1	3.3	100	83.3
40-44	2.7	62.5	19.3	2.1	8	5.4	100	81.8
45-49	2.2	62.3	13	4.1	6.4	11.9	100	75.3
Total	26	46.5	17.7	2	5.5	2.2	100	64.2
Men								
15-19	98.1	0.6	0.7	0	0.5	0	100	1.4
20-24	71.5	15.1	9.8	0.7	2.7	0.2	100	24.9
25-29	28.9	51.2	16.7	0.4	2.8	0.1	100	67. 9
30-34	11.3	66. 5	16.1	1.6	4.3	0.1	100	82.6
35-39	3.4	72.7	19.3	0.6	3.3	0.7	100	92
40-44	1.5	76.5	16	1.5	2.5	2	100	92.5
45-49	1.6	79.8	13.2	1.2	2.2	1.9	100	93.1
Total	41.8	42.8	11.7	0.7	2.5	0.5	100	54.5
Total	37.5	46.7	11.5	1	2.5	0.8	100	58. 2

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 survey

3.3. Age at first union

Although the Child Protection Act and the Congolese Family Code set the minimum age for marriage for women and men at the age of 18, in DRC women enter the first union at an earlier age than men. By 2014, 43% of women aged 25-49 entered union before reaching the age of 18. The median age of entry into first union for women aged 25-49 is 18.7 years; While for men it is 24.1 years.

Generational analysis indicates age aging at the first union: 17.9 years for older generations (≥ 45 years), and 19.3 years for those of younger generations (≤ 24 years). The aging of the age at first union can be explained by the cost of marriage ceremonies, especially in urban areas, which does not allow young people to realize their marriage plan.

Table 2: Age of men and women at first union

	Percentage in union before reaching current age :					Percentage practicing celibacy	Median age at first union
Current Age	15	18	20	22	25		
Women							
Age Groups							
15-19	6.1	-	-	-	-	76	-
20-24	10	37.3	56.5	-	-	32.1	19.3
25-29	12.3	40	61.6	75.1	86.6	10.4	18.9
30-34	11.9	43	61.8	74.6	85.2	5	18.7
35-39	14.8	43.4	59.6	74.1	86.3	2.7	18.7
40-44	14.7	42.6	59.6	72.6	83. 4	2.7	18.9
45-49	19	51.2	67.2	77.9	86.3	2.2	17.9
20-49	12.8	41.5	60.3	Na	na	12.3	18.8
25-49	13.8	43	61.6	74.7	85.7	5.7	18.7
Men							
Age Groups							
15-19	0.1	-	-	-	-	98.1	-
20-24	0.2	5.7	14.4	-	-	71.5	-
25-29	0.4	6.1	17	33.1	58.3	28.9	23.9
30-34	0.1	6.2	18.7	34.9	58.2	11.3	23.9
40-44	0.4	8.2	16.8	28.3	50.5	1.5	24.9
45-49	1	9.9	22.3	33.9	55	1.6	24.1
20-49	0.3	6.8	17.4	-	-	25.5	-
25-49	0.4	7.1	18.3	32.1	56	11.4	24.2

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 survey

3.4 Age at first sexual intercourse

The age at first sexual intercourse is also early in the DRC. In 2014, it was 16.8 years for women aged 25-49, and 17.8 years for men. In addition, almost a quarter of these women (24%) had had their first sexual intercourse before 15 years. It should be noted that the median age at first intercourse predates that at the first union, the gap is 1.9 for women and 6.3 for men. Early sexual intercourse in Congolese women may explain the high frequency of pregnancies and births outside unions and in adolescence.

Analysis of the median age of men and women at first sexual intercourse according to socio-demographic characteristics reveals differences between men and women: among women, it is earlier in rural than in urban areas, Whereas it is not at all different for men in both environments (17.6 years in rural areas and 18.1 years in urban areas for men aged 25-49). Moreover, regardless of sex, the median age at first sexual intercourse does not vary according to the level of economic well-being or education. However, there is a slight

precociousness for uneducated women aged 25 to 29 compared with those of higher level (16.6 years vs. 20.1 years).

In the provinces of the country, the Eastern and equatorial provinces have a median age at first lowest sexual intercourse (15.8 years and 15.9 years respectively), while the country average is 16.8 years for women (25-49 years). In the case of men, the provinces of Bandundu (16.7 years) and Equator (17.2 years) have the lowest median age at first sexual intercourse, whereas this age is quite high in the province of Maniema (18.9 years).

Table 3: Median age at first sexual intercourse by selected socio-demographic characteristics

Socio-economic Characteristics	Age of Women		Age of Men	
	20-49	25-49	20- 59	25- 59
Residence				
Urban	17.4	17.3	18	18.1
Rural	16.5	16.5	17.5	17.6
Province				
Kinshasa	18	17.8	18	18.1
Lower-Congo	16.8	16.7	17.6	17.8
Bandundu	16.5	16.5	16.7	16.7
Equator	15.9	15.9	17.1	17.2
Eastern	15.8	15.8	16.8	16.9
Northern-Kivu	17. 7	17.8	18.6	18.8
Southern-Kivu	17.5	17.7	17.8	18
Maniema	16.4	16.6	18.6	18.9
Katanga	17.1	17.1	18.2	18.3
Eastern Kasaï	17.1	16.9	18.6	18.5
Western Kasaï	16.8	16.8	18.2	18.3
Level of Education				
None	16.5	16.6	18.2	18.2
First	16.2	16.2	17.7	17.8
Second	17.3	17.2	17.5	17.7
Higher	-	20.1	18.2	18.2
Quintile of economic well-being				
Poorest	16.2	16.1	17.6	17.7
Second	16.4	16.2	17.4	17.4
Average	16.5	16.5	17.4	17.6
Fourth	16.9	16.9	17.6	17.8
Richest	17.9	17.8	18.2	18.2
Total	16.8	16.8	17.7	17.8

Source : EDS-2014 Survey

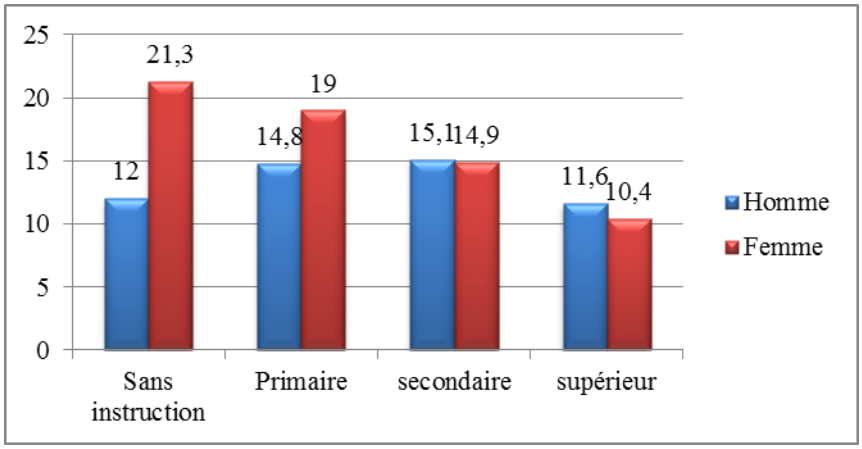
3.5. Practice of polygamy

In the DRC, the most common form of marriage is monogamous marriage Lowered on a legal union (civil marriage), in the proportion of 46.5% against 17.7% of de facto unions. This preponderance of civil marriages is explained by the fact that it is the only form of marriage encouraged and protected by law. The Congolese family code provides that no one may enter into a new marriage before the dissolution or annulment of the previous marriage. Monogamous marriage therefore affects 75% of women across the country. However, polygamy remains a fairly widespread practice and concerns 22% of women and 15% of men.

Among women in union, 18% have a co-wife, and 4% have at least two. The proportion of women with at least one co-wife increases with age, from 8% in the 15-19 age group to 29% in the 40-49 age group. The practice of polygamy is common in rural areas and in urban areas, with 20% of women having a co-wife in rural areas compared with 12.6% in urban areas. Considering the peculiarities of the provinces, polygamy is low in the province of Kinshasa and in the neighboring provinces (Bandundu and Lower Congo), but more frequent in the two provinces of Kasaï (Western and Eastern Kasaï) and in the province of Maniema With 20.6% of women with two co-wives.

The analysis of polygamy according to the level of education varies according to whether it is a man or a woman. In women, it decreases with educational attainment, and it is among women who have no education that there are large proportions of women with co-wives (21%) compared to women with higher levels of education (10.4%); whereas for men it is without particularity.

Figure 1: Distribution (in%) of men / women with two co-wives by level of education



EDS- RDC 2014 Survey

3.6. Exposure to Pregnancy Risk

In the DRC, the time that a woman is protected against the risk of conceiving is very short. On average, 12.8% of women become pregnant before returning from their menstrual cycle (period of postpartum amenorrhea), 7.8% in periods of abstinence and 14.7% during periods of un-sustainability. The median duration of postpartum amenorrhea is 10.6 months postpartum.

The median duration of postpartum amenorrhea varies according to the age of the mother: it is low for younger generations (9.8 months for those aged 15-29 years) but relatively high for the oldest women (12.1 months for those aged 30-49). On the other hand, the gap in the duration of abstinence between the two groups of women is very small, so there is no significant variation in the duration of postpartum oversight by age. There is a much shorter duration of blindness among women in Kinshasa (7.7 months) and in North Kivu (9.5 months) compared with those in other provinces, especially those in Lower Congo (14.3 months) and South Kivu (14.6 months). The period of insusceptibility decreases with increasing educational attainment and level of economic well-being.

Table 4: Mean duration of postpartum amenorrhea, postpartum abstinence and postpartum insusceptibility

Socio-Demographic Characteristics	Postpartum Amenorrhea	Postpartum Abstinence	Postpartum insusceptibility
Age of the Mother			
15-29	9.8	3.6	12
30-49	12.1	3.9	13
Residence			
Urban	8.3	2.7	7.7
Rural	11.8	4.2	13.6
Province			
Kinshasa	5.5	2.7	7.7
Lower-Congo	10.9	4.1	14.3
Bandundu	12.7	4.9	13.5
Equator	10.9	4.5	12.4
Eastern	9.6	4.7	13
North-Kivu	9.3	2.2	9.5
South-Kivu	11.6	2.5	14.6
Maniema	9.9	9	12.7
Katanga	11.1	3.3	12.1
Eastern Kasaï	10.3	3.1	12.8
Kasaï Western	11.2	4.1	12.8
Level of Education			
None	13.3	3.7	15.6
First	11.5	4	13.4
Secondary	7.8	3.4	9.9
Higher			3.4
Quintile of well-being			
Poorest	13.4	4.8	16.4
Second	11.6	5	12.8
Average	11.5	3.4	13.7
Fourth	9.2	3.6	11
Richest	6.9	2.2	8.6
Total	10.6	3.7	12.4

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 Survey

3.7. Conclusion

In the DRC, marriage is an almost general phenomenon and concerns most men (55%) and women (64%) of reproductive age. Since most births occur within the framework of marriage, the risk of pregnancy and procreation for the Congolese woman can still be considered high. To this factor (intense nuptiality) are added age at first sexual intercourse, age at first union, and duration of the period of postpartum immaturity that are early and short for most Congolese women.

CHAPTER 4: FERTILITY LEVEL AND TREND

4.1. Introduction

The fertility of Congolese women is still high despite various initiatives in favor of planning and the limitation of births. This fertility explains in large part the rapid increase in the size of the country's population since its independence which is likely to double every 20-25 years. On the African and global level, the DRC is ranked among the 10 African countries whose fertility transition is very slow, if not even initiated, and whose Total Fertility Rate (TFR) remains above 6 children. It is among the 12 countries in 199 countries and territories where the United Nations Population Division estimates that women still had more than 6 children between 2005 and 2010.

4.2. Level and trend of fertility

With a TFR of 6.6 children in 2014, the Congolese woman's fertility is high and above the average in sub-Saharan Africa (5.1 children per woman), the least developed countries (4.2 children per woman) and more than twice the world average (2.5 children per woman). The number of children per woman in the early 1960s was estimated at 6, at 7 in the late 1980s, 6.7 at the General Population and Housing Census from 1984 to the beginning of the years 2000. By 2014, the TFR was 6.6 children per woman. The decline in fertility in the DRC began only in 2010, with an average of 6.3 children per woman. This slight decline in fertility is attributable to the decline in the TFR in the city of Kinshasa where it was estimated at 3.5 children per woman in 2010 and in the province of Lower Congo with 4.8 children per woman of the same period, while there were more than 6 children per woman in other provinces of the country except Eastern province (5.1 children per woman).

Table 5: Evolution of the Synthetic Index of Fertility in each Province from 1955 to 2014

Provinces	Investigation/Period					
	E 1955-57	REC 1984	MICS 2001	EDS 2007	MICS 2010	EDS 2013-2014
Kinshasa	7.5	7.7	5	3.7	3.5	4.2
Lower Congo	7.2	7.7	7.3	5.9	4.8	6
Bandundu	6.7	7.1	6.9	6.7	6.2	6.3
Equateur	5	6.1	6.7	6.2	7.2	7
Eastern	4	4.8	6.5	6.7	5.1	5.9
North Kivu	8	7.6 (1)	7.3	7	7.5	6.5
South Kivu	8.5	8.2 (2)	7.8	7.4	8	7.7
Maniema	4.5	5.5	7.6	6.7	6.4	6.9
Katanga	8.2	7.8	7.2	5.9	8.6	7.8
Eastern Kasaï	5.7	7.4	7.3	7.6	7.1	7.3
Western Kasaï	6.4	7	9.5	7.7	6.2	8.2
Urban	6.1	7.2	6.3	5.4	4.8	5.4
Rural	4.8	6.5	7.4	7	7.1	7.3
DRC	5.9	6.7	7.1	6.3	6.3	6.6

Source : Compilation of data sources

Until 1984, Congolese women's fertility was higher in urban areas than in rural areas. From this date, the situation has been reversed as shown in Table 5 and there are more children per woman in the country than in the city. Note also that the level of education of the Congolese woman and the economic status of her household have an impact on the level of fertility: the higher the level of education for a woman, the fewer children she has. The higher the level of household welfare, the children she has. By 2014, women with no education had 1.5 more children than those who had reached secondary school. On the other hand, the number of children per woman decreases in households from the lowest quintile to those in the highest quintile, rising from 7.6 to 4.9 children, 1.5 times higher in quintile households lower than in households in the highest quintile.

4.3. Mean parity and primary sterility

Congolese women give birth to an average of 3.1 children, of whom 2.7 remain alive. This means that about 13% of children born alive die. The average parity per woman increases with age: from 0.3 in the 15-19 age group, it reaches 1.3 in the 20-24 age group and a maximum of 6.7 to 45-49 years. Taking into account the number of live births by mother's age, the Congolese woman's fertility is early and high, with 16.5% already having a child between the ages of 15-19 and more Of one-fifth of young women under the age of 20 (21%) have already given birth to at least one child. In addition, nearly one fifth (19%) of Congolese women aged 15-49 in union have at least 10 children.

As regards primary sterility, it is currently low in the DRC as only 1.7% of women in unions aged 45-49 have no children. Indeed, available data show that between 1955 and 1957, 19.8% of women over 45 had no children, which implied a high rate of involuntary and

pathological sterility. This was attributed to the impact of retrograde habits and practices on sexuality and marital stability, abuse of alcoholic beverages, prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases, goiter, sleeping sickness, and so on. The country at the time had pockets of infertility and infertility comprising the North part of the country and the central Lower in, mainly the Tsuapa, Ubangi, Mongala, Equator, Ituri, Uélé and Sankuru. Progress in health care, family rights and reproductive health rights is a clear justification for the decline in primary sterility in these territories. Currently, they have the same fertility rates as other provinces in the country.

Table 6: Children born alive and survivors of women

Age Groups	Number of Children Born alive											Average Number of Children per Woman	Average Number of Surviving Children
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+		
All Women													
15-19	78.8	16.5	4	0.6	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.27	0.24
20-24	30.1	29.3	24.2	11.2	3.9	1	0.1	0	0	0	0	1.33	1.21
25-29	8.8	11.3	19.6	21.5	20.1	11.4	5	1.9	0.3	0.1	0	2.99	2.68
30-34	6	6.9	9.9	12.4	17.9	16	14.5	9.3	4.4	1.7	1.1	4.29	3.77
35-39	4.1	4.4	5	9.4	10.8	13	14.1	16.1	10.4	6.1	6.6	5.55	4.76
40-44	2.8	5.3	6.5	5.6	7.7	10.7	12.6	13.3	12.5	10.7	12.2	6.16	5.19
45-49	2.3	3.2	4.4	6.5	6.9	11	9.8	12.5	13.9	11.2	18.3	6.73	5.51
Total	26.2	13.6	12.1	10.1	9.4	7.6	6.3	5.4	3.8	2.6	3.1	3.05	2.65
Women currently in unions													
15-19	34.9	47	15.2	2.5	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.87	0.79
20-24	10.3	31.8	33.6	16.7	5.9	1.4	0.2	0.1	0	0	0	1.81	1.65
25-29	2.7	9.2	20.1	23.4	22.6	13. 3	5.9	2.3	0.4	0.1	0	3.32	2.98
30-34	2.9	4.9	8.8	12.3	18.7	17.4	16.5	10.3	4.9	1.9	1.3	4.62	4.06
35-39	3	3.4	3.9	8.6	10.6	13	15.1	16.6	11.5	6.7	7.6	5.83	5.02
40-44	1.6	3.7	5.5	5.1	7	10.9	12.9	13.2	13.9	11.7	14.3	6.54	5.54
45-49	1.7	1.9	4	5.8	5.8	11	10.1	13.3	14.7	12.5	19	6.99	5.71
Total	6.3	13.3	15	13.2	12.5	10.4	8.8	7.3	5.3	3.5	4.3	4.09	3.55

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 Survey

4.4. Intergenerational intervals

Generally speaking, the interval between two births for the Congolese woman is acceptable, since in more than one third of cases (38.3%), births occur between 24 and 35 months, and beyond 24 months (34.5%) postpartum as recommended by WHO. In addition, the median number of months since the previous birth is estimated at 30.4 months. However, 10.4% of

births occur within 18 months of the previous birth, which is detrimental to the health of the mother and child.

However, it should be noted that the intergenic interval is mainly a function of the age of the mother, the survival of the previous birth, and the province. In young women (15-19 months), this range is low because the median number of months since the previous birth is shorter (25.5 months) than the others. This interval is relatively short when the previous child died only when he was alive (26 months versus 31 months).

For the different provinces, the median number of months since the previous birth is less than 30 months in the provinces of South Kivu (27.3 months), Katanga (28.7 months) and North Kivu (29.7 months). In contrast, the province of Kinshasa and the province of Bandundu are those where it is longer (34 months and 33.2 months respectively).
It should be noted that the sex of the previous child, the birth order, the place of residence, the mother's educational level and the economic well-being quintile have little influence on the inter-generational interval.

Table 7: Intergenerational intervals of Congolese women

Socio-Demographic Characteristics	Months since Previous Birth						Median number of months since Previous Birth
	7-17	18-23	23-35	36-47	48-59	60+	
Age Groups							
15-19	16	27	38.8	18	0.6	0	25.5
20-29	11	18	41.4	18	6	5.3	29.2
30-39	9.7	16	36.8	20	8.2	9.6	31.2
40-49	8.4	12	30.4	22	11	17	35.8
Gender of Previous Child							
Masculine	10	17	38	19	7.9	7.9	30.5
Feminine	11	16. 6	38.5	19	6.8	8.5	30.4
Survival of birth							
Living	8.7	16	39.5	20	7.7	8.2	30.8
Deceased	25	20	28.1	14	4.7	8.5	25.7
Birth Ranking							
2-3	9.7	18	37.7	18	7	9.5	30.6
4-6	11	15	39.1	20	7.8	7.4	30.6
7+	12	17	37.7	19	7.2	7.2	29.7
Residence							
Urban	9.9	17	35.7	19	8.2	11	30.8
Rural	11	17	39.4	19	7	7.3	30.3
Province							
Kinshasa	9.8	14	30.8	18	12	15	34

Lower Congo	6.5	15	40.3	20	7.2	11	31.7
Bandundu	11	14	34.3	22	8.6	11	33.2
Equateur	12	18	36.5	20	6.4	7.3	30.1
Eastern	8.7	16	37.1	20	7.6	11	31.8
North Kivu	11	18	38	18	7.6	7.9	29.7
South Kivu	14	21	40.8	14	3.4	7	27.3
Maniema	7.5	15	45.9	17	7.8	6.6	31.2
Katanga	11	17	41.3	17	7.1	5.8	28.7
Eastern Kasaï	8.3	17	43.3	19	7	5.2	30
Western Kasaï	10	17	39.1	22	7.3	4.6	30
Level of education							
None	12	17	37	19	7.7	7.2	30
First	10	17	39	21	6.6	7.2	30.4
Secondary	9.5	17	38.5	17	7.9	10	30.7
Higher	12	26	20.9	14	14	14	30.1
Quintile of economic well-being							
Poorest	11	17	36.5	22	7.1	7.2	31.3
Second	11	16	39.7	19	7.6	7.1	30.7
Average	9.6	17	41.2	19	7.1	6.9	29.9
Fourth	9.8	17	39.2	18	6.8	8.5	30.2
Richest	11	18	33.6	17	8	13	30.3
Total	10	17	38.3	19	7	8.2	30.4

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 Survey

4.5. Age at first birth

The median age at first birth for Congolese women (aged 25-49) in 2014 was 19.9 years. It shows slight variations depending on the level of education, economic status of the household, environment and province of residence. Indeed, this age increases with the level of education ranging from 19.8 years for women without education level to 20.6 years for those of secondary level. It is 19.7 years in rural areas compared to 20.5 years in urban areas. It is the province of Katanga that records the age at first birth the lowest (19.2 years) unlike the city of Kinshasa (22.1 years). Considering the level of economic well-being of households, the median age at first birth for women in the lowest quintile is 19.9 years, compared with 21.4 years for women belonging to the highest economic well-being quintile.

Table No. 1 : Age at first birth

Socio-Demographic Characteristics	Age of Women	
	20-49	25-49
Residence		
Urban		20.5
Rural	19.6	19.7
Province		
Kinshasa		22.1
Lower Congo	19.9	19.9
Bandundu		20.4
Equateur	19.5	19.6
Eastern	19.6	19.7
North Kivu		20.1
South Kivu	19.3	19.6
Maniema	19.8	19.9
Katanga	19.3	19.2
Eastern Kasaï	19.4	19.3
Western Kasaï		19.5
Level of Education		
None	19.6	19.8
Primary	19.1	19.2
Secondary		20.6
Quintile of well-being		
Poorest	19.7	19.9
Second	19.7	19.7
Average	19.4	19.5
Fourth	19.6	19.6
Richest		21.4
Total	19.9	19.9

Source : EDS-RDC 201Survey

4.6. Adolescent fertility

In the DRC, adolescent fertility remains intense and is a concern for governments and policy makers because of its impact on girls' health, education and productivity, and the health of the newborn. According to the State of World Population Report 2013, the DRC is one of the countries in the world where 20% or more of women aged 20 to 24 report having given birth before the age of 18. Indeed, the birth rate among adolescents aged 15-19 years between 2006 and 2010 was 135 per thousand women. According to data from the DHS survey 2013-2014, more than a quarter of adolescent girls, 27%, had already

begun their fertile life: 21% had already had at least one child and 6% were pregnant with a first child.

Analysis of adolescent fertility by socio-demographic characteristics reveals that the proportion of adolescent girls who have already begun their reproductive life increases with age from 4% to 15 years to 51% at age 19 44% of girls have already had at least one child and 6.9% are pregnant with their first child. This proportion is higher in rural areas (32%) than in urban areas (20%). The proportion of teenage girls who began their fertile life was higher in Eastern provinces (41%), Equator (39%), Lower Congo (37%) and Maniema (35%), while it is low in the province of Kinshasa (13%) and in the provinces of North Kivu (18%) and South Kivu (21%).

Adolescent fertility varies inversely with educational attainment. Indeed, the percentage of adolescent girls who have already begun their reproductive life is 39% among uneducated adolescents and 23% for those who have reached secondary level. Fertility would also be linked to the level of economic well-being. Indeed, it is low among adolescents in the Richest economic quintile (15.1%), but very high among those in the Poorest quintile (42.2%).

Table 9: Adolescent fertility by socio-demographic characteristics

Socio-Demographic Characteristics	Percentage of Women 15-19 years		Percentage having already begun their reproductive life	Female Population
	Have had a live birth	Pregnant with their first child		
Age				
15	1.8	2.5	4.3	772
16	8.8	5.4	14.2	823
17	21.2	5.7	26.9	826
18	30.9	8.9	39.8	898
19	43.9	6.9	50.8	735
Residence				
Urban	15.3	4.9	20.2	1733
Rural	25.7	6.8	32.4	2320
Province				
Kinshasa	9	3.8	12.7	472
Lower Congo	33.9	3.3	37.2	163
Bandundu	21.8	4.7	26.5	605
Equateur	27.8	11.1	38.9	498
Eastern	31.3	9.9	41.2	380
North Kivu	14.2	3.8	18	398
South Kivu	14.9	5.9	20.7	329
Maniema	26.5	8.7	35.2	108
Katanga	24.4	7	31.4	409
Eastern Kasaï	20.7	3.4	24.1	414
Western Kasaï	19.9	3.9	23.8	278
Level of Education				
None	30.7	8.6	32.9	283
Primary	27.1	7.4	34.5	1257
Secondary	17.6	4.9	22.5	2468
Higher	0	-6.3	(6.3)	45
Quintile of economic well-being				
Poorest	33.1	9.2	42.2	643
Second	23.1	6.7	29.8	668
Average	23.8	8	31.8	736
Fourth	20.5	5.3	25.8	896
Richest	12.3	2.9	15.1	1111
Total	21. 2	6	27.2	4054

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 Survey

4.7. Conclusion

Given the evolution of Congolese women's fertility as presented, and considering the different explanatory factors, such as age at first intercourse, age at first union, age at first birth as described in the previous chapter, there is every reason to believe that the fertility transition has not yet begun in the DRC. The beginning of this process and its acceleration imply a firm commitment by the public authorities and technical and financial partners to family planning to bring about a change in the population's behavior in this area. This requires both financial, material and human resources.

CHAPTER 5: REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

5.1. Introduction

The freedom to decide on the number and timing of children is recognized in the DRC as an important component of reproductive health, and a right for every citizen, male or female. The government's vision expressed in the "National Reproductive Health Policy" document developed in 2008 is to have a nation where every child who is born is a desired child who should not die from preventable causes, a nation where every woman has good maternal health and should not lose or see her life threatened by pathologies and preventable disease states related to pregnancy or childbirth.

However, in spite of this high level of willingness and effort, maternal health remains a major challenge. Indeed, the DRC is one of the 6 countries of the world, including 3 in Africa (Nigeria, Ethiopia, DRC), which carry 50% of maternal mortality due to frequent, close, early or late pregnancies. Efforts need to be made even more so that this vision of the government is realized.

This chapter includes five sections: knowledge of contraceptive methods, current use of contraceptive methods, family planning needs, prenatal care and delivery, and post-natal care.

5.2. Knowledge of contraceptive methods

Just over nine out of ten women (91%) and virtually all men aged 15-49 (96%) have heard of at least one contraceptive method. Women in unions, who constitute the vast majority of women, are not distinguished in terms of knowledge of contraceptive methods for all women (93% versus 91%) and non-union and sexually active women (93 %). Concerning modern methods, it is noteworthy that 88% of all women know at least one, compared with 90% for women in union and 91% of those outside union but sexually active.

Although the practice of contraception is too weak, as will be seen in the next section, the proportion of all women who know at least one traditional method exceeds three-quarters (76%). In the other two subgroups of women, that is, women in union and non-sexually active women, the proportion is higher (81%). Among these methods, the rate or periodic continence and withdrawal are known respectively by 65% and 61% of the women while foam or jelly is the least known method, both by men and women (22.4% for men and 10.4% for women).

As for modern methods, five methods are better known by women than others. In order:

male condom (81.9%), injectables (62%), pill (56%), female sterilization (54%) and female condom (43% . The best known method for all men and women is the male condom, 94% for men and 81.9% for women.

Table 10: Knowledge of contraceptive methods

Method	Women			Men		
	Total Women	Women currently in a union	Sexually active women not in a union	Total Men	Men currently in a union	Sexually active men not in a union
Any method	90.6	93	92.6	95.6	98.4	97.8
Modern methods	88.1	89.9	91.1	95.1	97.8	97.2
Male Sterilization	54.3	56.8	58.4	55.9	64.5	56.9
Female Sterilization	19.6	20.4	21.8	32.5	36.7	35.3
Birth Control Pill	56	59.5	56.2	49.8	57.7	49.5
IUD	24	25.6	24.2	20.6	25.3	21.2
Injectables	61.8	64.4	65.3	54.7	63.7	55.6
Implants	29.9	31.1	29.9	20.3	24.4	18.9
Male Condom	81.9	83.4	87.7	94.4	97	96.3
Female Condom	43.2	41.5	55.1	52.8	53.4	61
Foam/Jelly	10.4	10.6	11.2	18.4	20.5	21.5
Morning After Pill	18.8	19.1	21.3	22.4	24.9	26.7
Cycle of Birth Control Pill	23.3	25.1	22. 5	24	28.5	24.7
Traditional Methods	76.1	80.8	80.8	76.4	87.4	80.1
Rhythm Method	65.2	68.2	71. 2	61.4	70.8	66
Withdrawal	60.8	67.1	67.8	69.6	80.7	73.2
Other Methods	9.7	10	16.6	5.6	7.5	5.3
Number of Respondents aged 15-49 a	5.6	5.8	6.1	5.8	6.6	6.1
Number of Respondents	**18827**	**12096**	**1315**	7755	4230	1096

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 Survey

5.3. Current Use of Contraceptive Methods

In 2013, only one in five Congolese women (20%) used a contraceptive method, of which 12.6% used a traditional method and 7.8% a modern method. Modern methods include the male condom with 3.4% of users, followed by injectables (1.2%). The male condom is used more in urban areas (6.4%) than in rural areas (2%), probably because of its availability in towns rather than in villages. It is also used by the most educated women (10.5%) than those who have no education (1.1%). The level of economic well-being also appears to influence the use of male condoms, as it is used by 7.2% of women in the richest economic well-being quintile, compared with 2% by those in the highest quintile low. For both men

and women, the use of injectables, pills, intrauterine devices remains marginal and does not exceed 1%.

Table No. 1: Current Use of Contraception by Socio-Demographic Characteristics

Socio-demographic Characteristics	Any Method	Modern Methods	Modern Methods										Traditional Methods	Traditional Methods			Not Currently Using any Method	Number of Women
			Female Sterilization	Male Sterilization	Birth Control Pill	IUD	Injectables	Implants	Male Condom	Female Condom	Cycle of Pills	Other/ Foam/ Jelly	Traditional Methods	Rhythm	Withdrawal	Other		
Number of Living Children																		
0	5.7	2.4	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	1.8	0	0.1	0	3.3	2.3	0.9	0	94	934
1-2	21	8.5	0.2	0	0.6	0.1	1.1	0.5	4.9	0	0.4	0.6	12	6.2	5.3	1	79	3825
3-4	21	7.8	0.7	0	1	0.1	1.2	0.6	3.7	0	0.3	0.3	13	7.6	4	1	79	3351
5+	23	8.4	1.3	0	0.8	0.4	1.6	1	2.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	15	9.1	4.9	1	77	3985
Residence																		
Urban	31	15	0.8	0	1.8	0.5	2.4	1.5	6.4	0.1	0.6	0.6	17	11	4.9	1	69	3880
Rural	15	4.6	0.7	0	0.2	0	0.7	0.3	2	0	0.2	0.3	11	5.7	4.3	1	85	8216
Province																		
Kinshasa	45	19	0.8	0	3	0.5	3.4	2.4	6.7	0.2	0.5	1.5	26	16	7.7	2	55	1003
Lower-Congo	38	17	0.9	0	1.9	0	2.1	0	10	0.5	0.3	1.4	21	5.4	14	1	62	489
Bandundu	26	8.1	0.1	0	0.1	0	0.8	0.4	5.8	0	0	0.8	18	6.8	11	0	74	2108
Equateur	17	4.2	0.8	0	0.2	0.1	0.5	0	2.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	13	9.7	2.4	1	83	1760
Eastern	11	5.3	0.7	0	0.5	0	0.5	0.9	2.4	0	0.3	0	5.8	4	1.5	0	89	1158
Northern-Kivu	16	12	2.1	0	1.1	1.3	2.5	2.1	1.5	0	1	0	4.6	4.2	0.5	0	84	875
Southern-Kivu	13	7.9	0.6	1	1.2	0	1.9	1.5	0.6	0	0.9	0.1	5.3	2.8	1	1	87	864
Maniema	18	8.2	3.2	0	0.1	0	1.7	0.6	2.1	0	0.5	0	10	5.1	4.9	0	82	427
Katanga	13	3.9	0.1	0	0.5	0	0.4	0	2.6	0	0.1	0.2	9.5	4.5	2.9	2	87	1158
Eastern Kasaï	12	4.2	0.4	0	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.1	2.1	0	0.2	0.2	7.9	4.8	2	1	88	1353
Western Kasaï	24	6.5	0.7	0	0.6	0	1.8	0.1	2.6	0.1	0.6	0.1	17	14	1.9	1	77	900
Level of Education																		
None	11	4	1.3	0	0.3	0	0.7	0.4	1.1	0	0	0.2	7.1	3.6	2.6	1	89	2321
Primary	16	4.9	0.6	0	0.5	0.1	0.9	0.2	1.9	0.1	0.3	0.2	11	6	4.1	1	84	5073
Secondary	29	13	0.7	0	1.2	0	1.6	1.2	6	0	0.5	0.7	17	9.8	5.7	1	71	4468
Superior	48. 6	19	0	0	1.7	0.2	4.5	1.4	10.5	0.4	0	0.6	29	21	7.6	1	51	234

Quintile of Economic Well-being																	
Lowest	13	3.3	0.4	0	0.2	0	0.4	0	2	0	0.1	0.2	9.5	5.6	2.8	1	87	2435
Second	17	4.7	0.6	0	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.2	2.5	0	0.1	0.4	12	6.3	5.2	0	84	2678
Average	17	4.5	0.5	0	0.6	0	0.4	0.3	2.2	0	0	0.3	12	6.1	5.4	1	83	2487
Fourth	22	11	1.5	0	0.6	0.2	2	1.3	3.8	0.1	0.6	0.4	11	5.9	4.2	1	78	2315
Highest	36	17	0.7	0	2.5	0.6	2.7	1.8	7.2	0.2	0.8	0.8	19	13	4.8	1	64	2181
Total	20	7.8	0.7	0	0.7	0.2	1.2	0.7	3.4	0.1	0.3	0.4	13	7.2	4.5	1	80	12096

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 Survey

5.4. Family planning needs

The need for family planning is becoming increasingly acute in the DRC. Indeed, many fertile women who do not use contraception, feel the need to space their next births or do not want to have a new birth at all. This need arises more in terms of spacing than in the limitation of births. In total, 28% of women in unions have unmet needs for family planning, i.e. 21% for birth spacing and 7% for family planning. Regarding the needs met, 20% of the women are concerned, that is 13.7% for the spacing and 6.7% for the limitation of the births.

Ultimately, total demand for family planning, i.e. the sum of the proportion of women whose needs are met and those whose needs are not met, represent 48.1%, or 34% for women and 14% for the limitation. For modern methods, demand is only met in 16% of cases.

The socio-demographic characteristics of women influence family planning needs. These include age, place of residence and level of education. In terms of age, the proportion of women with unmet need for family planning is highest in the 15-19 age group (31%). This proportion decreases with age to reach 12% at 45-49 years. With regard to the unmet need for separation, available data show that they decrease considerably with age: from 30% to 15-19 years, this proportion is only 2% at 45-49 years .

Taking into account the residential environment, there are no notable differences between urban and rural areas (28% of SNBs in urban areas compared to 27% in rural areas). On the other hand, total demand for family planning is higher in urban areas (60%) than in rural areas (43%). 52% of this demand is met in urban areas (25% for modern methods) compared with 36% in rural areas (11% for modern methods). At the provincial level, the proportion of women with SNBs in family planning ranges from a low of 19% in Western Kasai to a high of 38% in North Kivu.

Finally, with regard to educational attainment, it is uneducated women who have more SNBs in terms of family planning. Indeed, 18.6% of these women have SNBs at birth spacing and 8.3% for birth control; On the other hand, only 14.3% and 2.9% of upper-level women have BNS respectively in birth spacing and in birth control. The difference is still clear when one considers the proportion of applications satisfied by modern methods: 29.4% of upper-level women who have SNBs in modern methods, on the other hand this proportion is only 10, 6% for women with no education. Thus, education remains a key determinant of family planning in the DRC.

Table No. 12: Family Planning Needs of Women Currently in a Union

Demographic Characteristics	Unmet Need for Family Planning			Met Need for Family Planning			Total Family Planning Demand			Percentage of Met Demand	Percentage of Demand Met by Modern Methods	Female Population
	To Space	To Limit	Total	To Space	To Limit	Total	To Space	To Limit	Total			
Age Groups												
15-19	29.7	1.1	30.8	12.1	0.4	12.5	41.8	1.5	43.3	28.9	12.6	863
20-24	27.8	1.5	29.2	18.3	1.2	19.4	46	2.6	48.7	39.9	16.9	2231
25-29	26.7	3.7	30.4	17	2.1	19	43.6	5.8	49.4	38.5	14	2817
30-34	22.1	7	29.1	17.8	7.2	25.1	39.9	14.2	54.2	46.3	19	2207
35-39	15	12.9	27.8	10	14	23.8	25	26.7	51.6	46.1	16.1	1820
40-44	8	17	25	6.2	16	22.4	14.2	33.2	47.4	47.2	16.4	1252
45-49	2.3	10	12.4	1.6	12	14	4	22.4	26.4	53.1	19.2	906
Residence												
Urban	20.8	7.6	28.4	19.9	11	31.1	40.6	18.8	59.5	52.2	24.6	3880
Rural	20.7	6.6	27.3	10.8	4.6	15.4	31.5	11.2	42.7	36.1	10.8	8216
Province												
Kinshasa	15.8	7.6	23.4	27.9	17	44.8	43.7	24.5	68.2	65.7	27.9	1003
Lower Congo	21.4	6.3	27.8	24.7	13	37.8	46.1	19.4	65.6	57.6	26.2	489
Bandundu	21.4	7.3	28.7	18.5	7.5	26	39.8	14.8	54.7	47.5	14.9	2108
Equateur	26.3	7.7	34	10	6.9	16.9	36.3	14.6	50.9	33.2	8.2	1760
Eastern	18.9	10.6	29.5	7.1	4	11.1	26	14.6	40.6	27.3	13.1	1158
North Kivu	27.1	10.4	37.5	9.3	6.9	16.2	36.5	17.2	53.7	30.2	21. 5	875
South Kivu	18	4.1	22.1	9.2	4	13.2	27.2	8.1	35.3	37.3	22.4	864
Maniema	22	7.9	29.9	11.2	7	18.2	33.2	14.9	48.1	37.8	17	427
Katanga	20	6.8	26.7	10.3	3.1	13.4	30.3	9.8	40.1	33.3	9.7	1158
Eastern Kasaï	19	3.6	22.6	8.4	3.7	12.1	27.4	7.4	34.7	34.9	12.2	1353
Western Kasaï	15.3	3.5	18.8	18.6	4.9	23.5	33.9	8.5	42.4	55.6	15.3	900
Level of Education												
None	18.6	8.3	26.9	7.2	3.9	11.1	25.8	12.2	38	29.2	10.6	2321
Primary	21.6	7.3	28.9	10.2	5.4	15.7	31.8	12.7	44.5	35.1	10.9	5073
Secondary	21.3	6	27.3	20	9.2	29.2	41.3	15.2	56.5	51.8	22.2	4468
Higher	14.3	2.9	17.3	32.7	16	48.6	47	18.9	65.9	73.8	29.4	234
Quintiles of Well-Being												
Poorest	22.8	5.6	28.4	9.7	3.1	12.8	32.6	8.7	41.3	31.1	8	2435
Second	19	7.8	26.8	11.4	5.1	16.5	30.4	12.9	43.4	38.1	10.9	2768
Average	21.4	6.9	28.3	11.8	4.9	16.7	33.2	11.8	45	37.2	9.9	2487
Fourth	21.6	7.1	28.7	14.3	7.8	22.1	35.9	14.9	50.8	43.4	21.6	2315
Richest	18.9	7.2	26.1	22.4	14	36.2	41.3	21	62.2	58.1	27.6	2181
Total	20.7	6.9	27.7	13.7	6.7	20.4	34.4	13.7	48.1	42.5	16.3	12096

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 Survey

5.5. Prenatal care and delivery

In the DRC, more than 8 out of 10 women (88%) benefit from prenatal care provided by trained personnel. In most cases, care is provided by nurses (52.3%), followed by birth

attendants (25.6%), physicians (10.5%) and, to a lesser extent, by midwives (0.8%). However, 9.9% of women have no antenatal care at all. This is particularly true for uneducated women (16%), in the poorest economic welfare quintile (18.6%), and living in Katanga (20%) and eastern Kasai (17%). It is also to be deplored that some women (less than 1%) resort to unskilled people, such as a village matron, a neighborhood mom or a prenatal healer. Women under the age of 20 benefit from prenatal care provided by skilled provider than the elderly (90.6% vs. 85.7%, respectively). In terms of birth order, it emerges that first-tier births (90.6%) are more likely to be followed by a trained provider than those of rank 6 and over with 85.5% (table no. 13).

Regarding the number of visits made, nearly half of the women carried out more than 4 visits as recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO), most of them women in urban areas (60.7%) than women in rural areas (42.1%).

With regard to the place of delivery, 79.9 per cent of women gave birth in a health facility, 64.5 per cent in a public sector establishment and 15.4 per cent in private institutions. A significant proportion of women, or 19.6%, give birth outside a health facility because of difficulties in accessing these structures due to financial constraints. The proportion of women who give birth at home varies with the birth order of the child, the level of education of the woman, the level of economic well-being, and the living environment. Indeed, from 16% for Rank 1, this proportion is 22% for Rank 6 or higher. Rural women (24%) have a high proportion of their births at home compared to those in urban areas (6%). The most educated women and those whose households are classified in the richest economic well-being quintile deliver less frequently at home than the others. It should also be noted that women who have at least four recommended prenatal visits give birth less at home (10%) than those who have done less (16%) and especially those who did not (64%). In terms of childbirth assistance, 72.7 per cent of women who have given birth have received assistance from the nurse and birth attendant and 7.4 per cent from the physician. However, in 14.6% of cases, the delivery is managed by an unqualified person (matron of the village, neighborhood mum, traditional healer, etc.). It should be noted that 0.8% of women who give birth receive no assistance.

Table No. 13: Pre-natal Care

Socio-demographic characteristics	Healthcare Provider								
	Doctor	Nurse/Midwife	Birth Attendant	Midwife	Village Matron	Traditional Healer	District Matriarch	No Care	Percentage of women Having received prenatal care by a Trained provider
Age of Mother									
< 20	10.3	55.5	24.8	1.1	0.6	0	0	7.6	90.6
20-24	10.7	52.3	25.7	0.8	0.4	0.1	0	9.8	88.7
35-49	10.2	49.8	25.7	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.2	12.3	85.7
Birth order									
1	13.9	52.6	25.6	1.3	0.4	0	0	6.2	92
2-3	12.1	51.4	25.5	0.7	0.5	0.1	0	9.4	88.9
4-5	8.9	53.4	25.9	0.9	0.3	0.1	0	10.4	88.2
6+	7.8	52.3	25.3	0.7	0.4	0	0.2	12.8	88.5
Residence									
Urban	27.7	46.1	20.3	0.4	0	0	0	5.1	94.1
Rural	2.6	55.2	28	1	0.1	0.1	0.1	12.2	85.8
Province									
Kinshasa	44.6	42.2	9.7	1.1	0	0	0	2	96.4
Lower Congo	14	77.7	3.5	0	0	0	0	4.8	95.1
Bandundu	3.6	39.4	46.7	0.8	0.7	0	0	8.3	89.8
Equateur	4	63.7	15.5	3	0.8	0.3	0	12.7	83.2
Eastern	8.2	39.3	41.2	0	0.1	0	0	11.1	88.6
North Kivu	9.8	76.7	11	0	0	0	0	2.6	97.4
South Kivu	3.7	63.8	28.3	0.2	0.4	0	0	3.7	95.8
Maniema	3.8	47.6	40.4	1.1	0.1	0	0	7.1	91.7
Katanga	18.3	43.2	17.1	0.6	0.5	0	0	20	78.6
Eastern Kasaï	7.7	48.2	24.5	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.3	17.1	80.5
Western Kasaï	6.7	55	26.9	0.1	0.3	0	0	10	88.6
Level of Education									
None	2.2	54.1	26.1	1	0.4	0	0	16	82.3
Primary	4.6	56.1	25	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.1	12.5	85.6
Secondary	18.9	48.6	26.5	0.9	0.2	0	0	4.6	94
Higher	60.1	25.5	13.5	0	0.5	0	0	0.2	99.1
Quintile of Economic Well-Being									
Poorest	1.9	51.5	25.3	1.3	1	0.2	0	18.6	78.7
Second	2.7	54.8	28.5	1.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	11.3	86
Average	3.7	55	31.3	0.7	0.2	0	0.1	8.8	90.1
Fourth	8.4	56.3	29.3	0.1	0.2	0	0	5.5	94
Richest	40.9	43.1	11.7	0.5	0	0	0	3.6	95.7
Total	10.5	52.3	25.6	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.1	9.9	88.4

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 Survey

5.6. Post-natal care

Post-natal maternal care after delivery is provided to 44% of women. This includes the examination and monitoring of the woman during the immediate postpartum period (a few hours after delivery up to 42 days after delivery).

A total of 44% of women received postnatal care within the recommended time frame, 48 hours after birth. In 4% of cases, the examination and care took place quite late, between 3 and 41 days, that is, beyond the recommended period. Most educated women and those in households in the richest quintile received this care within the recommended time frame (80% and 63%).

In contrast, 52% of women received no post-natal care or late care. This proportion is higher among women in the poorest economic welfare quintile (61.3% versus 31.5% for those in the richest quintile), among the least educated women (59.6% compared to 15.5 for higher-level women). It is also among women who have given birth in a health facility that there are high proportions of women who have not received post-natal care (84.2% versus 43.4%).

Table No. 14: Post-natal care provided to the mother after birth

Socio-demographic characteristics	Length of time between childbirth and the time the mother received first aid					No post-natal care	Percentage of women who received care in the first two days after birth
	Fewer than 4 hours	4-23 Hours	1-2 Days	3-6 Days	7-41 Days		
Age of the Mother							
< 20	14.1	7.9	16.7	2.7	1.2	56.3	38.7
20-24	18.1	7.7	18.8	2.4	1.1	51	44.6
35-49	21	7.1	17.5	2.5	1.5	49.3	45.6
Birth Order							
1	15.8	9.7	17.9	3.8	1.8	49.8	43.4
2-3	18.8	7	19.5	2.4	0.5	50.8	45.3
4-5	17.7	6.9	18.5	1.7	1.7	52.7	43.1
6+	18.7	7.5	16.8	2.1	1.2	52.6	43
Place of Delivery							
Health Establishments	21.1	9.1	21.2	2.7	1.4	43.4	51.4
Elsewhere	5.2	1.8	6.6	1.2	0.5	84.2	13.6
Residence							
Urban	22.5	11	23.9	3.2	1.5	36.4	57.4
Rural	15.9	6.1	15.7	2.1	1.1	58.3	37.7
Province							
Kinshasa	26.1	10.5	27.2	2.7	0.8	30.6	63.8
Lower Congo	17.1	12.5	21.3	2.6	1.1	45.1	50.9
Bandundu	27.4	5.8	15.1	3.8	2.1	45.4	48.3
Equateur	14.4	6.3	8.1	1.3	0.8	68.7	28.8
Eastern	9.7	5.5	19.4	3	0.4	58.5	34.6
North Kivu	36.1	8.7	13.6	3	2	35.3	58.4
South Kivu	13.6	12	24.2	2.4	0.7	46.1	49.7
Maniema	13.2	12	21	1.9	1.4	49.6	46.2
Katanga	12.4	9.5	22	1.6	1.3	52.2	43.9
Eastern Kasaï	7.1	4.3	19.9	1.9	1.1	65.5	31.3
Western Kasaï	18	5.5	21.6	2.1	1.1	51.1	45.1
Level of Education							
None	15.2	5.5	16.6	1	1.1	59.6	37.4
Primary	15.1	6.5	15.8	2.5	1.3	58.1	37.4
Secondary	22	9.2	21.2	3.1	1.1	42	52.5
Higher	27.2	20.8	32.2	1	2.9	15.5	80.3
Quintile of Economic Well-Being							
Poorest	16.3	4.4	14.3	2.2	1.1	61.3	35
Second	16.2	5.1	14.7	2.6	1	60	35.9
Average	17.4	6.8	17. 4	2.3	1.3	53.1	41.6
Fourth	18	11.1	19.1	2.3	1.6	46.4	48.2
Richest	22.8	12.3	28.3	2.9	1	31.5	63.4
Total	17.9	7.6	18.3	2.4	1.2	51.5	43.8

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 Survey

5.7. Conclusion

Reproductive health is still incomplete, and is improving slowly in the DRC. Indeed, although the public authorities aspire to a state of complete well-being of the population in all aspects of the reproductive system, and despite the various efforts made so far, the country still faces several challenges in this field . These challenges include the low use of modern contraceptive methods (20% female users only), the low rate of satisfied needs in family planning (20% of the needs met on 48% expressed). Similarly, access to prenatal, post-natal and childbirth care where 9.9% of women who have given birth have not received prenatal care, 52% not benefited from post-natal care, and 14.6% of childbirth was attended by an unskilled person.

Increased efforts to meet family planning needs, including improved utilization rates of modern contraceptive methods. The delivery of all women in health facilities and assisted by trained personnel are levers to be supported in order to improve maternal health.

CHAPTER 6: LEVEL OF MORTALITY

6.1. Introduction

6.2. Levels and trend of child mortality

This point presents the levels, trends and differences observed in the evolution over time of infant and child mortality. It should be noted that these two indicators are influenced by poverty, sanitary, environmental, socio-economic and cultural conditions. Therefore, information on these indicators is very useful for the development of policies and programs related to improving the health of children under 5 years of age.

Figure 2: Evolution of infant and child mortality in the DRC

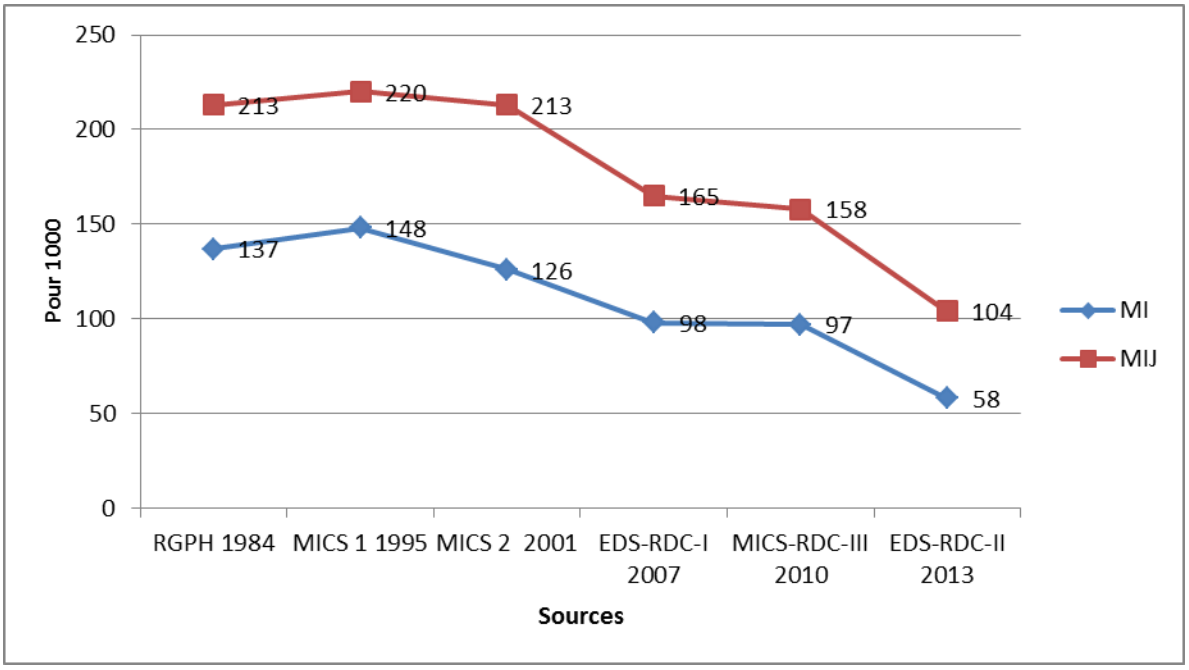


Figure 1 shows mortality trends from 1984 census data to those of DHS-DRC II (2013-2014). This figure shows that the trend is decreasing, regardless of the type of mortality. Infant mortality has declined steadily, from 137 ‰ to 58 ‰. Similarly, infant and child mortality also declined from 213 ‰ to 104 ‰.

6.3. Differential mortality of children and high-risk groups

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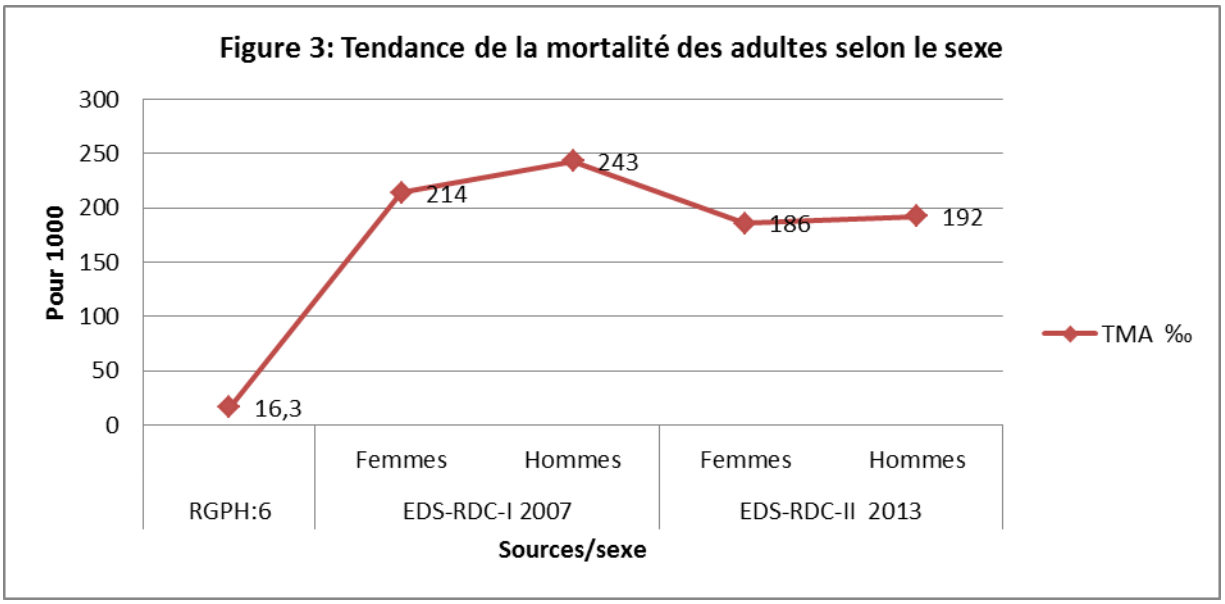
In terms of adult mortality, although the trend is downward, it remains relatively high among men, unlike women. It increased from 243 per thousand in 2007 to 192 per thousand in 2013-2014 for men and from 214 per thousand in 2007 to 186 per thousand in 2013-2014.

6.4. Adult mortality



Furthermore, the health of Congolese mothers remains a matter of concern regarding the recent data of the EDS_RDC II. Maternal mortality declined from 1999 to 2007 and is projected to increase in 2013-2014. It rose from 1,837 per 100,000 live births (NV) in 1999 to 1,289 in 2001, 549 in 2007 and 846 in 2013.

6.5. Maternal mortality

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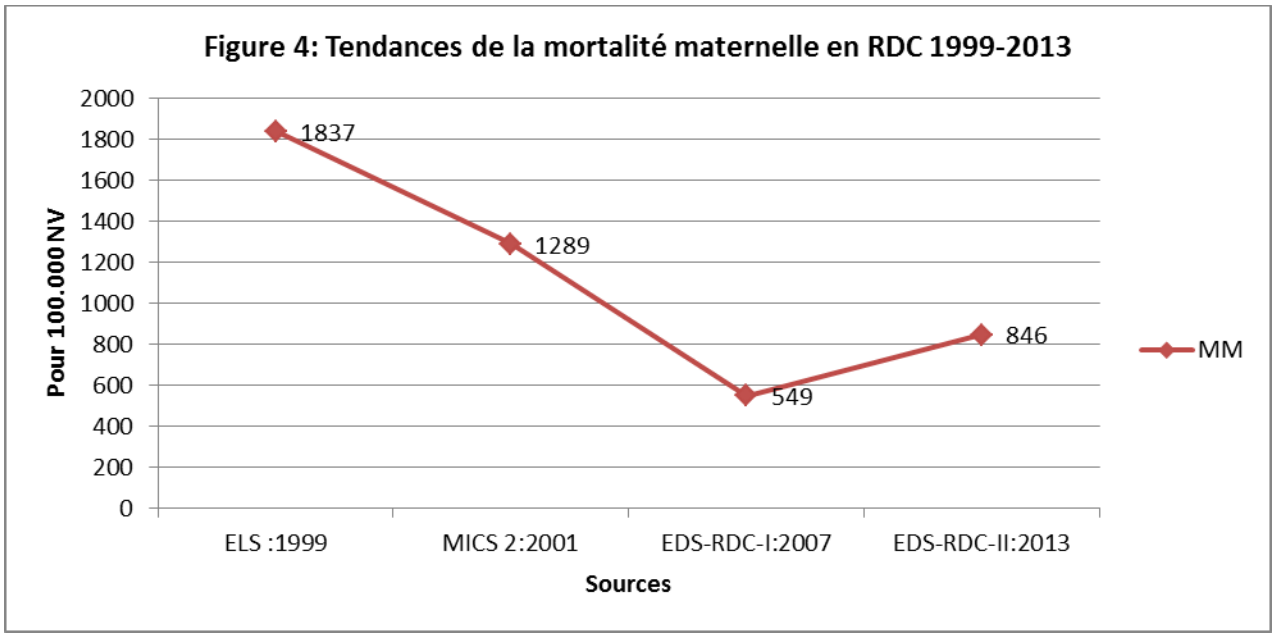


6.6. Conclusion

CHAPTER 7: LEVEL AND TREND OF MIGRATION

7.1. Introduction

7.2. Level and trend of internal migration

7.3. Level and trend of international migration

7.4. Conclusion

CHAPTER 8: POPULATION AND EDUCATION

8.1. Introduction

In the DRC, the right to education is guaranteed by the Constitution, which stipulates that every person has the right to education provided by national education. A specific program is also planned for the eradication of illiteracy. Education shall be free and every person shall have access to national educational institutions, according to his or her abilities, without discrimination as to place of origin, race, religion, sex, political or philosophical opinions, mental or sensory.

With a view to ensuring quality education for all, the Government decided to promote compulsory primary education (girls and boys) and free of charge to all. In order to do so, a series of measures has been taken, including the abolition of school fees for parents, integration of children excluded from the school system, reduction of geographical disparities and gender inequalities and social groups. These measures also aim to support local communities in the development of pre-school education in order to facilitate the transition to primary education.

To materialize this new policy of the government, the financing of the education sector has greatly increased. The share of public expenditure on education reached 16% in 2014, compared to 8% in 2000 and 4% in 1990. The support of the TFPs to the education sector has grown significantly in recent years and has risen from less than 8% in 2010 to nearly 20% in 2013. In concrete terms, there has been an increase in the primary school enrollment rate in recent years, dropout and school drop-out, particularly among girls. Ultimately, education, especially at the primary level, is one of the areas of national life that has made tremendous progress over the decade.

This chapter presents indicators related to literacy and the schooling of the population.

8.2. Distribution of population by level of education

The level of education of the Congolese population varies according to age, sex, and standard of living. There are also significant differences in the geography of residence and the provinces of the country. Overall, the country has a high proportion of the population at primary level, low proportions at the secondary level and very low proportions at the higher level. According to the 2013 Human Development Report, the primary gross enrollment ratio was 94 per cent, 38 per cent in secondary education and 6.2 per cent higher in the country as a whole.

The analysis of men's educational attainment reveals that extreme ages are the highest proportions of those without education (20.6% in the age group 6-9 years and 17.4% for men over 60). This means that more than two out of ten children of primary school age do not have access to it. It is also noted that there are only 13.3% of men completing primary school, 7.3% completing secondary school and only 4.7% completing the upper level. There is thus a considerable loss of enrollment in the transition from one cycle of studies to another.

Depending on the place of residence, men living in cities are more educated than their rural counterparts, with 12.4 per cent of men completing the upper level in the city compared to 1.2 per cent in rural areas. Regarding the particularities of the provinces of the country, the provinces of Katanga and those of the Western and Eastern Kasai have a relatively large proportion of uneducated men with 15.8%, 14.6% and 11.3 % In each of the provinces. Taking into account the level of economic well-being, men in the richest quintile are more educated (16.4% at the top) than those in the poorest quintile (4.6% at the top) .

Table 14: Educational attainment of the male population

Socio-demographic characteristics	None	Incomplete Primary	Complete Primary	Incomplete Secondary	Complete Secondary	Higher Education	Do Not Know
Age groups							
6-9	20.6	78.8	0	0.2	0	0	0.3
10-14	2.7	75.2	4.1	17.9	0	0	0.1
15-19	2.7	22.5	4.6	67.1	2.4	0.6	0
20-24	3.3	11	5.6	50.5	20.2	9.4	0.1
25-29	6.6	15	6	34.5	25.6	12.3	0
30-34	6.4	17.6	7.9	33.8	21.9	12.4	0
35-39	5.8	17.2	9.4	38	19.7	9.2	0.6
40-44	5.4	15.6	8.4	36.6	21.5	12.5	0.1
45-49	6.4	15.5	8	38	22	9.8	0.2
50-54	5.4	17.5	8.9	38.8	18.3	11.2	0
55-59	7.2	20.3	10.6	35.4	16.7	9.7	0.1
60-64	17.4	24.2	12.8	30.6	10	5.2	0
65+	17.5	34.9	13.3	20.7	7.3	4.7	1.5
Residence							
Urban	3.6	32.4	4.3	33.1	13.9	12.4	0.3
Rural	10.5	45.1	6.1	28.8	8.1	1.2	0.1
Province							
Kinshasa	3.3	20.9	4.8	29.4	20.1	21	0.5
Lower Congo	6.3	40.2	4.4	31.2	14.3	3.2	0.4
Bandundu	6.8	42.9	7.4	32.6	7.7	2.5	0
Equateur	7.7	45.9	4.9	30.5	9.2	1.8	0.1
Eastern	6.9	41.2	6.7	32.8	8	4.4	0.1
North Kivu	4.6	42.3	4.8	33.4	10.9	3.8	0.1
South Kivu	6.4	43.9	5.4	30.7	8.5	5.1	0.2
Maniema	8.3	38.2	6.5	35.9	7.9	3	0.2
Katanga	15.8	41.6	7.1	24.6	5.5	5.3	0
Eastern Kasaï	11.3	46. 4	6.6	26.8	5.7	3.1	0.1
Western Kasaï	14.6	41.5	4.3	29.9	7	2.7	0
Quintiles of Economic Well-Being							
Poorest	13.9	49.5	5.8	25.8	4.6	0.3	0.2
Second	10.3	46.6	7.1	26.8	8.3	1	0
Average	8	41.7	5.8	32.6	9.9	1.7	0.2
Fourth	6.9	39.3	5.1	34	10.6	4.1	0.1
Richest	2.2	27. 9	3.6	31.8	16.4	17.6	0.4
Total	8.1	40.7	5.4	30.3	10.1	5.1	0.2

Source : EDS-RDC 2014 Survey

As with men, it is also in extreme ages that high proportions of uneducated women are recorded (23.3% in the age group 6-9 years and 64.8% in women of 65 Years and over). The proportion of those completing primary education is 2.3%. It is still low at secondary level 0.7%, and clearly insignificant at the higher level (0.1%). Women living in cities are more educated than rural women with 5.4% at the higher level compared with 0.1% in rural areas.

The situation in the provinces of the country highlights three provinces with high proportions of uneducated women, namely the provinces of Western Kasai with almost one third of women without instructions (31.3%), Equator (23.9%) and Eastern Kasai with 21.7%.

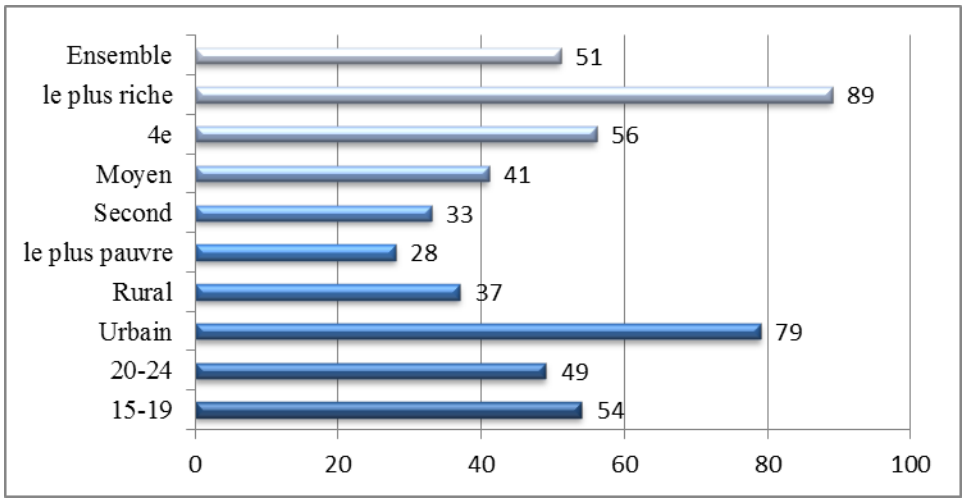
Table No. 2 : Educational attainment of the female population

Socio-Demographic Characteristics	None	Incomplete Primary	Complete Primary	Incomplete Secondary	Complete Secondary	Higher Education	Do Not Know
Age Groups							
6-9	23.3	76.2	0	0.1	0	0	0.4
10-14	5.1	76.7	3.9	14.1	0	0	0.2
15-19	7.1	25.2	6.5	56.9	3.2	1.1	0
20-24	11.6	25.2	7.8	36.7	12.7	6	0
25-29	17.4	32.8	8.4	25	10.9	5.4	0.1
30-34	19	31.1	11.2	25.2	9.3	4.2	0
35-39	18.6	27.5	10	32	8.5	3.3	0.1
40-44	20.4	31	9.6	28	8.5	2.3	0.2
45-49	27.2	34.6	8	22.3	6	2	0
50-54	37.9	29.2	7.4	18.9	5	1.2	0.5
55-59	40.1	34.1	7.4	15	2.4	0.5	0.6
60-64	49.8	30.3	6.8	9.3	2.5	0.9	0.3
65+	64.8	27.6	2.3	3.9	0.7	0.1	0.4
Residence							
Urban	7.6	35.6	6.3	34.2	10.5	5.4	0.3
Rural	25.3	51.3	5.7	15.9	1.6	0.1	0.1
Province							
Kinshasa	5.3	23.1	5.9	36.2	19.4	9.7	0.4
Lower Congo	15.9	48.1	5.8	24	5.2	0.7	0.2
Bandundu	16.1	46.2	6.4	26.7	4	0.6	0
Equateur	23.9	49.1	5.2	18.4	2.5	0.7	0.1
Orientale	19.4	50.4	7.2	19.6	2	1	0.4
North Kivu	12.6	52.2	7	23.8	3.6	0.7	0.2
South Kivu	20	48.1	6	20.6	3.1	1.9	0.2
Maniema	21.1	47.5	8	20.1	2.3	0.8	0.2
Katanga	25.5	42.1	5.7	20.6	2.8	3.2	0.1
Eastern Kasaï	21.7	52	5.5	18.1	1.8	0.9	0.1
Western Kasaï	31.5	43.9	4.1	16.7	2.9	0.9	0
Quintiles of Economic Well-Being							
Poorest	32.4	50.4	5	11	1	0	0.2
Second	24.5	51.8	6.7	15.4	1.5	0.1	0.1
Average	19.4	52.5	6.3	19.8	1.7	0.2	0.2
Fourth	14.7	47.1	5.8	26.7	4.8	0.7	0.2
Richest	4.9	28.5	5.7	37.8	14.2	8.5	0.3
Total	19	45.7	5.9	22.4	4.8	2	0.2

8.3. Distribution of the population according to the level of literacy

In 2010, more than half (51%) of young women aged 15-24 years could read and write. However, this rate varies according to the place of residence (79% in urban areas compared with 37% in rural areas) and according to the level of socio-economic well-being of the household. Indeed, the literacy rate ranges from 28% in the poorest households to 89% in the richest households.

Figure 2: Distribution of young women aged 15-24 by level of literacy



With regard to adult literacy, in 2014, the proportion of illiterate women was three times higher than that of men (36% vs. 11%), which means that there are more literate men than women (88.1% versus 63.8%). Regarding the place of residence, as one might expect, whatever the sex, there are more literates in urban than in rural areas (94.8% of men and 86.6% literate women in urban areas compared with 84.1% men and 49.6% rural women). The gaps are also considerable considering the quintile of the economic well-being of the population. The proportion of illiterate women is 60.6% for those in the poorest income quintile, compared to 6.6% for those in the richest quintile. The same is true of men, where only 2.8% of illiterate men are among the wealthy, compared with 21.2% of disadvantaged households.

Considering the provinces of the country, it is the province of Western Kasai that has the highest proportion of illiterate women (47.8%); By contrast, the lowest proportion of illiterate women is in the city of Kinshasa (6.2%). Finally, with regard to age, whatever the sex, there are more illiterates at the advanced ages than at the lower ages. Ultimately, as with formal education, the place of residence, standard of living, and province of residence influence the literacy of the male or female population.

Table 16: Distribution of the population according to the level of literacy

Socio-Demographic Characteristics	Men		Women	
	Literate	Illiterate	Literate	Illiterate
Age Groups				
15-24	91.2	8.3	73.6	26
15-19	90	9.3	77.6	21.8
20-24	92.7	7.1	69.1	30.6
25-29	85.4	14	57.8	41.8
30-34	83.6	15.8	57.6	41.7
35-39	86.5	12.7	60.4	38.8
40-44	88.9	10.8	57.4	41.7
45-49	86.7	12.6	46.3	52
Residence				
Urban	94.8	4.9	86.6	12.8
Rural	84.1	15.2	49.6	49.8
Provinces				
Kinshasa	97.5	2.1	93.3	6.2
Lower Congo	89.1	10.7	66.8	33
Bandundu	90	9.2	65	34.3
Equateur	89.6	10.3	53.4	46.1
Eastern	81.4	18.1	57.6	41.4
North Kivu	81.1	18.7	64.2	35.5
South Kivu	81.6	17.5	59.8	39.9
Maniema	92.4	7.4	66.4	33.4
Katanga	86.2	13.1	54.3	45.1
Eastern Kasaï	89.1	9. 9	63.9	35.3
Western Kasaï	87.7	11.1	51.1	47. 8
Quintiles of Economic Well-Being				
Poorest	77.9	21.2	38.5	60.6
Second	82.9	16.3	48.8	50.7
Average	88.4	11.1	57.9	41.5
Fourth	91.4	8.4	71.8	27.5
Richest	96.7	2.8	93	6.6
Total 15-49	**88.1**	**11.3**	**63.8**	**35.6**

Source : MICS RDC 2010 Survey

8.4. Primary school admission rate

In 2012, the gross primary enrollment rate for the country as a whole was 133.1%. As for the country as a whole, all provinces have a gross primary school enrollment rate of over 100%. It is the province of Maniema which has the highest rate of 170.2%, unlike the province of Lower Congo and the city of Kinshasa with a rate of 101.2% and 104.1%, respectively.

There is no significant difference between girls and boys in all provinces, but the provinces of Western Kasai and Equator show fairly significant differences. The gap between boys and girls is 20.9 % in the province of Western Kasaï and 18.6% in that of Equator in favor of the boys, while it is only 1% in the city of Kinshasa and this in favor of the girl.

Table 17: Gross Enrollment Rates by Sex and Province in 2012

Province	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
Kinshasa	103.1	104.1	103.6
Lower Congo	106.1	101.2	103.6
Bandundu	152.2	143.3	147.7
Equateur	154.4	135.8	145.1
Eastern	130.6	122.1	126.4
North Kivu	132.6	119.6	126.1
South Kivu	127.2	120.6	123.9
Maniema	174.6	165.7	170.2
Katanga	120	114	121.7
Eastern Kasaï	158.7	146.4	152.6
Western Kasaï	175.4	154.5	165
DRC	138.7	127.6	133.1

Source : DRC Annual statistics 2014

8.5. Net primary school admission rate

In 2011, 51% of children of primary school age (6 years) were enrolled in the first year of primary school. There are no major disparities between the sexes (52% for boys and 50% for girls). However, there are fairly large differences between areas of residence, between provinces and the mother's level of education. There are also discrepancies in the socio-economic well-being quintile.

In fact, more than one-quarter (77.5%) of 6-year-olds in the province of Kinshasa were admitted to school at the age of 6, whereas the situation is worse in the provinces of Equateur (41%), Western Kasaï (42.3%), Katanga (44.5%), Lower Congo (46.3%), North Kivu) and South Kivu (48.9%) with a net primary school enrollment rate below the national average.

In terms of the residential environment, more than seven out of ten (70.8%) children of

school age were admitted to school in 2011, compared with only 43.7% of children of the same age in the school. The rural environment. In terms of educational attainment, the children of the more educated mothers (secondary and higher) attended school at age 6 compared to those of uneducated mothers (73, 6% against 34.5%). Finally, 77 per cent of children from families in the richest economic well-being quintile entered primary school at age 6, compared with 43.4 per cent of those from the poorest households.

Table 18: Net primary school admission rate

Percentage of children of primary school age entering primary school		
Sex	**%**	Number of children
Male	52.2	1013
Female	50.4	1010
Province		
Kinshasa	77.5	214
Lower Congo	46.3	131
Bandundu	59	203
Equateur	41	227
Orientale	52.3	223
North Kivu	46.8	187
South Kivu	51.4	61
Maniema	48.9	159
Katanga	44.5	315
Eastern Kasaï	52.3	165
Western Kasaï	42.3	137
Residence		
Urban	71	572
Rural	44	1451
Level of Education		
None	34.5	503
Primary	43.7	845
Secondary +	73.6	674
Quintiles of Economic Well-Being		
Poorest	43.4	414
Second	38	409
Average	47.3	399
Fourth	53.7	435
Richest	77	365
Total	**51.3**	**10112**

Source : MICS 2010 Survey

8.6. Gross primary school enrollment ratio

The gross primary school enrollment ratio for the country as a whole in 2012 was 101.3% with a slight gap between boys and girls (106.8% for boys and 95.7% for girls). It remains above 100% in the provinces of Bandundu, Western Kasaï, Eastern Kasaï, Equator and Lower Congo. It is lower in Kinshasa in the proportion of 87.7%.

The gender analysis shows a slight gap between girls and boys in favor of girls in the city of Kinshasa (1.7%), whereas in the other provinces of the country it is against girls. The large gaps are found in the provinces of Western Kasai (20.5%) and Equator (17.9%). For the country as a whole, boys outnumber girls by 11.1%.

Table 19: Gross enrollment ratio at primary level and by province in 2012

Province	**Sex**		**Total**
	Male	**Female**	
Kinshasa	86.8	88.5	87.7
Lower Congo	104.7	96.3	100.5
Bandundu	119.8	111.1	115.4
Equateur	112.7	94.8	103.8
Eastern	103.2	94.6	98.9
North Kivu	102	91.7	96.9
South Kivu	95.6	89.9	92.7
Maniema	113.8	105.5	109.6
Katanga	100.3	83.5	91.9
Eastern Kasaï	117.8	105.5	111.7
Occidental Kasaï	124.9	104.4	114.7
RDC	106.8	95.7	101.3

Source : DRC Annual statistics 2014

8.7. Primary Parity Index

Primary education in the DRC achieves a girl/boy parity index close to the unit. In the city of Kinshasa and the province of Lower-Congo, there is almost perfect equality in terms of enrollment between girls and boys. In 2013, virtually all provinces have a parity index of 0.9 except for the city - province of Kinshasa where this index reaches unity. In the provinces of Western Kasai, Katanga and the province of Equator it is 0.8.

Table 20: Primary parity index

Province	Period						
	2007	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**
Kinshasa	1	1	1.02	1	1	1	1
Lower Congo	0.9	0.9	0.94	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9
Bandundu	0.8	0.9	0.93	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9
Equateur	0.7	0.7	0.81	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8
Eastern	0.8	0.8	0.95	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9
North Kivu	0.8	0.9	0.85	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9
South Kivu	0.8	0.9	0.93	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Maniema	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9
Eastern Kasaï	0.8	0.8	0.88	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9
Western Kasaï	0.7	0.8	0.87	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Katanga	0.7	0.8	0.86	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Total	0.8	0.83	0.89	0.86	0.9	0.9	0.9

Source : Report on the Millennium Development Goals

8.8. Primary completion rate

The net primary school completion rate is very low in the DRC. In 2010, only 14.4% of children of primary school age were actually in the final year of the primary cycle. This rate varies according to the province, the place of residence (26.9% in urban areas and 9.4% in rural areas), maternal education and economic well-being. It is slightly higher among boys than girls (15.4% versus 13.5%, respectively). It is in the province of Kinshasa that it is the highest (39.4%) and lowest in the province of Equator (3%). The mother's level of education is three times higher for the mother at the secondary level and more so for those without education (28% versus 8.3%). The proportion of children from the richest households completing the primary cycle is 7 times that of the children of the poorest households (37.8% versus 5.2%).

Table No. 21: Number of children of primary completion age

Socio-Demographic Characteristics	Primary School Completion Rate	Number of children of primary completion age
Sex		
Male	15.4	810
Female	13.5	833
Provinces		
Kinshasa	39.4	163
Lower Congo	15.1	75
Bandundu	14.4	155
Equateur	2.5	163
Eastern	5.6	221
North Kivu	17.6	177
South Kivu	19.1	49
Maniema	12.3	118
Katanga	10.6	282
Eastern Kasaï	21	131
Western Kasaï	9.4	111
Place of residence		
Urban	26.9	473
Rural	9.4	1171
Level of education for the mother		
None	8.3	431
Primary	8.5	708
Secondary+	28	505
Quintiles of Economic Well-Being		
Poorest	5.2	284
Second	7	356
Average	11.9	333
Fourth	11.7	367
Richest	37.8	304
Religion of the head of the household		
Catholic	16.9	492
Protestant	10.7	550
Kimbanguist	19.9	59
Churches of Awakening	22.1	225
Other Independent Christians	11.3	131
Jehovah's Witnesses	15.7	37
Muslims	-	24
Animism	-	17
Non-religious	8	108
Total	14.4	1643

Source : MICS RDC -2010 Survey

8.9. Primary to Secondary Transition Rates

In 2010, of the 100 children who had successfully completed the final year of primary school, 87.2% had completed their first year of secondary education. There is a difference of 4.4% between girls and boys for girls (89.7% for girls and 85.3% for boys). In the case of the provinces, the highest transition rates are found in the provinces of Eastern Kasaï (96.4%), North Kivu (94%), Bandundu (93%) and Kinshasa %). On the other hand, the lowest rate of secondary schooling was found in the eastern province (66.7%). Rural areas have a lower transit rate than urban areas (84.1% compared to 91.4%). The rate of secondary schooling increases with the mother's educational attainment (88.2% for uneducated mothers versus 91.3% for secondary and higher mothers) and the level of economic well-being (79% for the poorest households versus 93.1% for the richest households). There is no significant difference according to the religion of the head of the household.

Table No. 22 : Passage to High School

Socio-demographic characteristics	High school-going rate	Number of children who were last grade in the previous year
Sex		
Male	85.3	585
Female	89.7	421
Provinces		
Kinshasa	92.3	159
Lower Congo	87.9	72
Bandundu	92.7	125
Equateur	85.1	69
Eastern	66.7	116
North Kivu	93.8	85
South Kivu	82	33
Maniema	85.8	79
Katanga	84.9	110
Eastern Kasaï	96.4	98
Western Kasaï	87.3	59
Place of residence		
Urban	91.4	424
Rural	84.1	582
Level of education for the mother		
None	88.2	149
Primary	89.1	278
Secondary+	91.3	392
Quintiles of Economic Well-Being		
Poorest	79	134
Second	83.3	150
Average	85.6	186
Fourth	88.1	251
Richest	93.1	285
Religion of the head of the household		
Catholic	85.6	344
Protestant	88.6	268
Kimbanguist	86.7	38
Churches of Awakening	88.5	157
Other Independent Christians	90.8	62
Jehovah's Witnesses	87.9	34
Muslim		20
Animism		7
Non-religious	83.9	75
Total	87.2	1006

Source : MICS RDC -2010 Survey

8.10. Gross enrollment ratio for secondary education

At the secondary level, the Gross Enrollment Rate is worse than that of the primary level, where it sometimes exceeds 100%. For the country as a whole, the primary GER for 2014 was 118.3% versus 57.9% for the secondary level. Differences are observed between rural and urban areas; GER remains high in urban areas and in rural areas (76.4% for city dwellers compared with 46.9% in rural areas). The difference between the two sexes is also palpable, where for the female population as a whole, the GER was 46.8%, compared with 69% for men in 2012. For the provinces, % In the Kasai Oriental to 84.5% in the city of Kinshasa.

Table 23: Gross enrollment ratio at secondary level

Socio-economic characteristics	Gross rate of attendance at secondary level		
	Men	**Women**	**Total**
Residence			
Urban	83.4	70	76.4
Rural	60.9	32.2	46.9
Province			
Kinshasa	84.3	84.7	84.5
Lower Congo	78.8	51.9	65.5
Bandundu	61.7	45.8	54. 6
Equateur	69.3	39.8	55.2
Eastern	72	37.3	54.2
North Kivu	68.9	42.9	56.2
South Kivu	64.5	39.5	51.8
Maniema	78.4	41.4	59.9
Katanga	60	46.9	53.1
Eastern Kasaï	49.6	35.6	42.5
Western Kasaï	69.9	41.5	56.2
Quintiles of Economic Well-Being			
Poorest	52.8	24.7	38.8
Second	56.4	32.9	44.5
Average	69.2	35	53
Fourth	73.7	49.5	61.8
Richest	87.9	81.2	84.3
Total	69	46.8	57. 9

Source : MICS-RDC 2010 Survey

8.11 Secondary Parity Index (see Girl-Boy to High School Ratio)

Province	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
Kinshasa	59.7	56.7	58.2
Lower Congo	35.7	17.6	25.7
Bandundu	52.3	26.2	39.3
Equateur	29.2	9.1	19.3
Eastern	17.9	8.6	13.3
North Kivu	28	18.1	23.1
South Kivu	28.5	15	21.8
Maniema	43.5	13.2	28.4
Katanga	28.2	11.3	19.8
Eastern Kasaï	35.9	14	25
Western Kasaï	40.1	11.7	26
DRC	35.2	18	26.6

8.13. Ratio of girls to boys at the secondary level

At the secondary level, the differences between girls and boys are much more pronounced. The national average is 0.81 with fairly large variations by province. While it is greater than 1 in the province of Bandundu, it is only 0.56 in the province of Kasaï Oriental and 0.63 in the province of Western Kasai. Rural areas have a lower girl-boy ratio than urban areas (0.71 for rural areas and 0.85 for urban areas). The difference is also clear when we consider the mother's educational attainment. It is clear that the ratio is lower (0.64) among households where mothers have no education but higher in households where mothers are high school and higher (0.91). The same is true for the level of economic welfare, where the ratio is 0.89 for the richest households, while only 0.57 for children in the poorest households.

Table 25: Gender-to-Boy Parity Index

Socio-demographic characteristics	Gender parity at the secondary level
Provinces	
Kinshasa	0.95
Lower Congo	0.73
Bandundu	1.01
Equateur	0.76
Eastern	0.97
North Kivu	0.66
South Kivu	0.64
Maniema	0.69
Katanga	0.71
Eastern Kasaï	0.56
Western Kasaï	0.63
Place of Residence	
Urban	0.85
Rural	0.71
Level of Education	
None	0.64
Primary	0.87
Secondary+	0.91
Quintiles of Economic Well-Being	
Poorest	0.57
Second	0.72
Average	0.68
Fourth	0.79
Richest	0.89
Total	0.81

8.16. Conclusion

CHAPTER 9: POPULATION AND EMPLOYMENT

9.1. Introduction

This chapter focuses on three elements. This is the activity rate by sector, type of employment and unemployment rate. These data will be structured by residence in order to better understand the situation.

Note that the measurement of labor force participation rate implies knowledge of the labor force. The latter is an indicator of the number of individuals engaged in the labor market, whether they are employed (occupied) or unemployed. The activity rate thus refers to the ratio between the active population and the potentially active population, that is, of working age.

The results of the 1-2-3 survey (DRDC_INS, 2012: 63) show that assets account for 56% of the population, i.e. 28.8 million individuals. The distribution of these assets is in favor of men, with an activity rate of 58.8% as against 53.2% for women.

9.2. Past and current activity rate

The results in Table 8 show the structure of jobs by institutional sector and by sector of activity. These sectors of activity are primary industry, industry, trade and services.
In the institutional sector, it can be seen from this table that nearly three (3) out of five (59.7%) in the DRC occupy the informal agricultural sector, 77.5% of whom work in rural areas . The majority of Kinois workers work in informal but non-agricultural jobs (61.1%).
In the sector of activity, the primary sector occupies a prominent position in the country as a whole (71.2%), but very pronounced in rural areas (84.2%). Trade comes second (15.2%). Unlike the primary sector, trade is more concentrated in urban areas (28.7%) and mainly in Kinshasa (32.6%).

[10] Includes agriculture, livestock, fisheries and forestry.
[11] Includes manufacturing and mining, and construction.
[12] Includes wholesale and retail trade.
[13] Includes hotels and restaurants, repair services, recreation, tourism and domestic services, utilities, business services, banking and financial services, transportation and telecommunications, and other services.

Table 8: Employment Structure by Institutional Sector and Business Line

Sectors	**Kinshasa**	**Urban areas (excluding Kinshasa)**	**Rural**	**Total**
Institutional sector				
Administration	15.4	10.2	3.2	5.7
Para-public	6.8	6	1.5	2.9
Formal private	15.1	5.7	0.4	2.8
Informal/non-agriculture	61.1	54.7	17.3	28.9
Informal/agriculture	1.6	23.4	77.5	59.7
Activity area				
Primary	2.3	25.8	84.2	71.2
Industry	14.6	13.9	4.5	4.4
Commerce	32.6	28.7	3.8	15.2
Services	50.5	31.6	7.6	9.2

Source : 1-2-3. INS. RDC. : 66 Survey

9.3. Types of occupancy

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Table 9: Structure by CSP and pluriactivity of persons employed

CSP	**Kinshasa**	**Urban areas (excluding Kinshasa)**	**Rural Areas**	**DRC**
Frames	21.3	9.8	1.9	5.2
Self-employed	39.7	58.6	66.6	62.7
Employees, workers	25	16.5	3.8	8.3
Maneuvers and other	10.1	6.9	2.0	3.7
Family caregivers	3.8	8.2	25.8	20.2
Multi-activity rate over the last 12 months	**8.5**	**15.9**	**21.4**	**19.2**
Multi-activity rate over the last seven days	**4.6**	**10.4**	**13.1**	**11.9**
Salary rate	**54.3**	**31.9**	**7.1**	**16.3**

Source : 1-2-3. INS. RDC. : 68 Survey

In terms of pluriactivity, a strategy for households and individuals to increase their income, Table 9 shows that the cumulative level of activity is very high in rural areas (21.1%) and in urban areas (15, 9%) in the 12 months prior to the survey.

In addition, a segment of the working population in Kinshasa is neither a manager nor a self-employed worker, and still less an employee, but a maneuver (10.1%). This shows that access to employment is not easy, leading to an increase in the unemployment rate.

9.5. Unemployment rate

Unemployment is a situation that reflects the absence of jobs for people of working age who have the skills to work and are available to do so. In practice, the unemployment rate expresses the ratio between the unemployed and those seeking work and the total labor force, i.e. the sum of the employed and the unemployed. It is often important to link this indicator to the participation rate; As conditions in the labor market change. Thus, employment and unemployment can progress or retreat simultaneously.

Table 10: Distribution of the unemployment rate by age and place of residence in the DRC

Age group	Kinshasa	Other urban	Urban	Rural	DRC
10-14	11.8	5.5	6.8	1.5	2.2
15-24	49.9	15.5	24.6	3.1	8.8
25-34	20.4	9.8	12.7	1.8	5.4
35-54	12.3	5.2	7.4	0.7	3.1
55-64	6.5	2.7	3.8	0.3	1.4
65 years +	13.7	2.8	6.3	0.5	2.1
Total	18.8	7.8	11.1	1.4	4.5

Source : 1-2-3. INS. RDC.2012 :89 Survey

[14] Socio-professional category

The data in Table 10 reveal that there are 4.5% of the unemployed in the DRC as defined by the ILO. In Kinshasa, almost one in five people working in the country, or 18.8%, would be unemployed. The unemployment rate is relatively low regardless of age group in rural areas compared to Kinshasa where the rate is very high.

9.6. Conclusion

[15] International Labor Office

CHAPTER 10: POPULATION AND LIVING CONDITIONS

10.1. Introduction

This chapter aims to present the living conditions of households in the DRC. Thus, four sections will be dealt with later. The first examines the living conditions of households with particular emphasis on water supply, availability of electricity, type of floor covering, number of rooms used to sleep. The second presents the various durable goods possessed by households. The third describes the households according to the methods of evacuation of the refuse and the fourth is devoted to the index of well-being of the population.

10.2. Distribution of households by habitat characteristics

Table 11 summarizes the main features of habitat in the DRC.

Table 11: Distribution of population by habitat characteristic and sources of drinking water supply.

Characteristics	**Urban**	**Rural**	**Total**
Source of drinking water supply			
Improved source	84.5	32.2	48.7
Tap water in the house	2.6	0.1	0.9
Faucet in the yard/plot	17.1	0.3	5.6
Public faucet / Fountain pedestal	16.1	6.8	9.7
Neighbor has tap water	26.4	0.6	8.7
Wells / Drilling	3.6	1.7	2.3
Protected Well	6.1	3.0	4
Source of Protected Water	11.6	19.8	17.2
Rain water	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bottled water	1.1	0.0	0.4
Unimproved source	14.7	67.7	51
Unprotected wells	3.6	6.3	5.4
Unprotected source	8.4	49.2	36.3
Tank truck with small tank	0.1	0.0	0.0
Surface water	2.6	12.2	9.2
Other	0.8	0.0	0.3
Electricity			
Yes	42.0	0.4	13.5
No	58	99.6	86.4
Floor covering material			
Earth. sand	49.4	95.3	80.8
Bouse	0.4	1.3	1.0
Wooden boards	0.1	0	0.1
Palms/bamboo	0.1	0.6	0.5
Vinyl tape or asphalt	0.0	0.0	0.0
Floor tile	3.3	0	1.1
Cement	45.6	2.4	16.1
Carpeting	0.7	0.0	0.2
Other	0.4	0.2	0.3
Rooms used for sleeping			
One	28.7	34.6	32.7
Two	38.6	35.2	36.3
Three or More	32.1	29.9	30.6

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Some significant progress is being made in terms of water supply and some characteristics of housing in the DRC.

The proportion of households using safe drinking water (from an improved source) increased from 46% in 2007 to 49% in 2013. In rural areas, this proportion rose from 24% to 32% and in urban areas from 80% to 85%.

In electricity and flooring, only 14% of households (42% in urban areas compared to 0.4% in rural areas) have electricity in their dwelling. The majority of households (81%) live in dwellings with soil/sand. In rural areas, almost all households (95%) live in these conditions compared to urban areas, where nearly one in two households (49%) live in rural areas. The proportion of rural households living in dwellings with cement flooring is only 2.4%, compared to 45.6% in urban households and 16.1% in all households. Concerning the number of rooms used to sleep, three Congolese households hard ten (30.6%) use at least 3 rooms to sleep.

10.3. Breakdown of households by households owned by households

One way of assessing the socio-economic level of households is to seize the assets that they possess.

Table 11 shows that in the country as a whole, the most frequently owned goods are, in order of importance: beds, chairs, ovens, lamps, radio, cell phone, watch and a television. Some goods are more frequent in urban areas than in rural areas, and vice versa. Some are almost non-existent in rural areas. This is the computer, landline phone and refrigerator. In terms of transportation, the proportion of households owning bicycles is very similar in the two neighborhoods (23% in urban areas and 25% in rural areas). Concerning ownership of agricultural land, nearly six out of ten households (59.9%) own agricultural land, although close to three in four (74%) households owning it live in rural areas 74% compared with 29% in urban areas.

Table 12: Distribution of households by household appliances and means of transport used

Possession	Urban	Rural	Total
Property Owned by the Household			
Radio	58.2	35.4	42.6
Television	43.7	1.7	15
Mobile phone	78.9	20.8	39.1
Landline phone	1.8	0.3	0.8
Refrigerator	14.1	0.1	4.5
Generator	6.9	1.2	3
Stove / Range	21.4	0.2	6.9
Chairs	91.2	68.9	75.9
Beds	88.7	73.5	78.3
Lamps	77.5	55.3	62.3
Ovens	4.4	1.2	2.2
Houes	49.4	77.7	68.8
Sewing machines	10.8	2.8	5.3
Watch	50.4	23.4	31.9
Computer	7.9	0.2	2.6
House for rent	16.5	2.1	6.7
Means of transport			
Bicycle	22.7	24.8	24.1
Cart drawn by an animal	0.1	0.1	0.1
Motorcycle/scooter	7.9	3.8	5.1
Car/truck	4.3	0.1	1.4
Power Boat	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pirogue	0.6	0.6	0.6
Possession of agricultural land	28.8	74.3	59.9
Possession of farm animals	29.1	55.0	46.8
Total	**5 741**	**12 430**	**18 171**

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10.4. Breakdown of households by type of garbage disposal

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residence and province.

Table 13: Distribution (in%) of population by economic well-being quintile and Gini coefficient, by province and by place of residence

Place of Residence/Province	Quintiles of Economic Well-Being					Number of Respondents	Coefficient of Gini
	Poorest	Second	Average	Fourth	Richest		
Urban	4.8	3.3	7.4	27.4	57.1	32 948	0.3
Rural	27.9	28.7	26.5	16.1	0.7	63 389	0.19
Province							
Kinshasa	0	0	0	2.9	97.1	8 614	0.14
Lower Congo	5.5	13.3	25.3	32.4	23.5	4 243	0.24
Bandundu	22.6	33.5	24.5	16.6	2.8	15 227	0.39
Equateur	38.5	24.3	21.1	13	3.1	13 198	0.26
Eastern	25.7	24.2	22.5	18.4	9.3	9 692	0.33
North Kivu	13.3	17.2	19.6	26.9	22.9	8 208	0.36
South Kivu	7.8	13.2	25.9	43.1	10.1	7 381	0.42
Maniema	20.5	21.2	33.1	20.8	4.4	3 299	0.34
Katanga	16	16.1	17.6	17.3	33	10 020	0.38
Eastern Kasaï	20.7	19.4	19.3	24.6	16	10 018	0.34
Western Kasaï	31.1	22.2	18	20.9	7.8	6 436	0.28
Total	**20**	**20**	**20**	**20**	**20**	**96 337**	**0.40**

RDC_Min plan, 2013-2014.

The results in Table 13 show that almost 85% of the urban population is classified in the first two quintiles, of which more than half belongs to the richest quintile (57%). By contrast, the majority of households in rural areas, 28.7%, are classified in the fourth or fourth position on the scale.

As for the provinces, it is the province of Kinshasa that comes first (97.1%). The provinces of Katanga (33%) and Lower Congo (23.5%) come second and third respectively. Equator, Western Kasaï and Eastern province are the least well-placed provinces in terms of economic and social well-being.

For the Gini coefficient, the DRC has a more egalitarian distribution of the economic well-being of its population (0.40). However, the situation is more worrying (more unequal) in urban areas (0.30) than in rural areas (0.19), which is relatively more homogeneous.

[16] The Gini coefficient indicates the level of concentration of economic well-being. A value close to 0 means an equal distribution and a value close to 1 indicates a totally unequal distribution.

10.6. Conclusion

Some provinces have a more pronounced inequality than others. These include South Kivu Province (0.42), Bandundu (0.39) and Katanga (0.38) compared to the provinces of Kinshasa (0.14) and Lower Congo).

Chapter 11: Status of Women and Domestic Violence

11.1. Introduction

11.2. Monitoring the use of money in the household

11.3. Possessions of property

11.4. Decision Making in the Household

11.5. Opinion on sexual violence

11.6. Physical violence suffered for 15 years

11.7. Sexual Abuse for 15 Years

11.8. Control by husband / partner

11.9 Domestic violence

11.10. Violence against spouse

11.11. Conclusion

GENERAL CONCLUSION

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