



# WA WEST

Feed the Future Ghana District Profile Series - February 2017 - Issue 1

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Wa West is one of the districts in Ghana's Upper West Region. It shares borders to the south with Northern Region, north-west by Nadowli District, east by Wa Municipal and to the west by Burkina Faso. The district has a total area of 1492.0 square kilometers and a total population of 88,502, out of which 44,737 are females and 43,765 males. The average household size in the district is 5.2 persons. The boxes below contain relevant economic indicators such as per capita expenditure and poverty prevalence for a better understanding of its development.

Poverty Prevalence 26.7 %

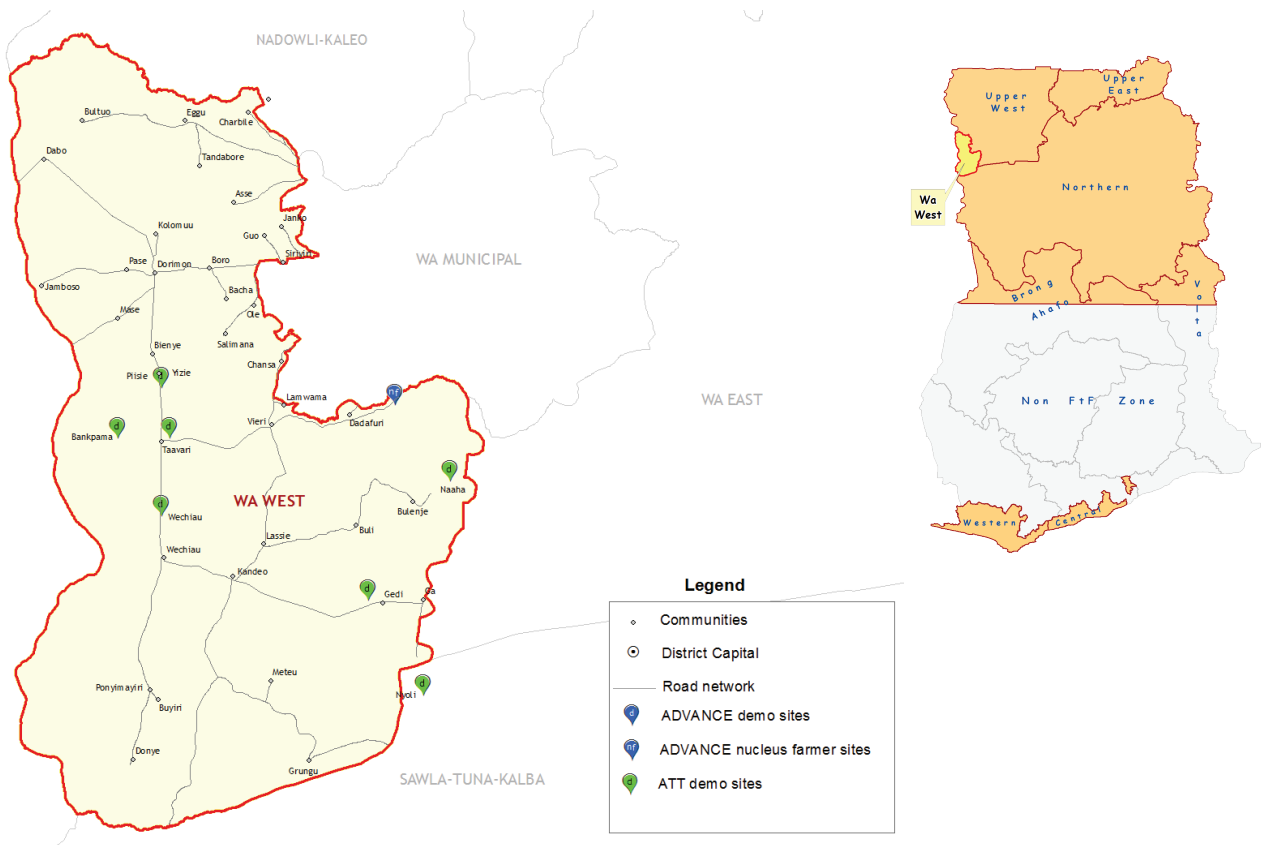
Households with moderate or severe hunger\* 42.4%

Poverty Depth 9.7 %

Daily per capita expenditure 4.29 USD

Household Size 5.2 members

Total Population of the Poor 23,630



*This section contains data and information related to USAID sponsored interventions in Wa West*

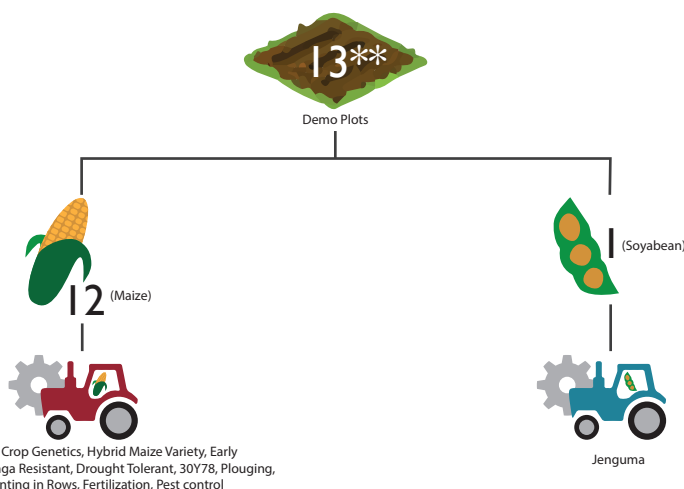
**Table I: USAID Projects Info, Wa West, 2014-2016**

Beneficiaries Data	2014	2015	2016
Direct Beneficiaries	2515	1,875	3,150
Male	1190	886	1,462
Female	1095	989	1,688
Undefined	230		
Nucleus Farmers	2	5	n/a
Male	2	5	
Female			
Undefined			
Demoplots	3	10	n/a
Male	3	3	
Female		4	
Undefined		3	
Production			
Maize Gross Margin USD/ha		708.3	n/a
Maize Yield MT/ha		3.06	n/a
Rice Gross Margin USD/ha		488.4	n/a
Rice Yield MT/ha		2.53	n/a
Soybean Gross Margin USD/ha		829.5	n/a
Soybean Yield MT/ha		1.71	n/a
Investment and Impact			
Ag. Rural loans			4,759
USAID Projects Present			3
Beneficiaries Score	3.0	2.0	2.0
Presence Score 2014-2016			2.1
District Flag 2014-2016			Green

Source: USAID Project Reporting, 2014-2016

The number of direct USAID beneficiaries\* increased in 2016 after a decrease in 2015. Five nucleus farmers are currently operating in the district and 13 demonstration plots have been established to support beneficiary training. See Infographic 1 for the demonstration plot disaggregate. Small agricultural loans were facilitated by USAID intervention as shown in Table I. Direct beneficiaries yields and gross margins for the district are also available in Table I. The presence of USAID development work is average, with decent number of beneficiaries, small number of demo plots and small agricultural loans during 2014-2016. This resulted in a USAID presence score\*\* of 2.1 out of 4. The district is flagged GREEN\*\*\* indicating that while the project presence or intervention is average the impact indicator values have improved as compared to 2012. Find more details on USAID Presence vs. Impact scoring on page 7.

**Infographic 1: Demo Plots in Wa West, 2014-2015**



*The presence calculation includes the number of direct beneficiaries and Agricultural Rural loans.*

Source: USAID Project Reporting, 2014, 2015

\* "Direct Beneficiary, an individual who comes in direct contact with a set of interventions" FTF Handbook, 2016 , \*\* and \*\*\*Presence and Flag Ranges are explained in page 7

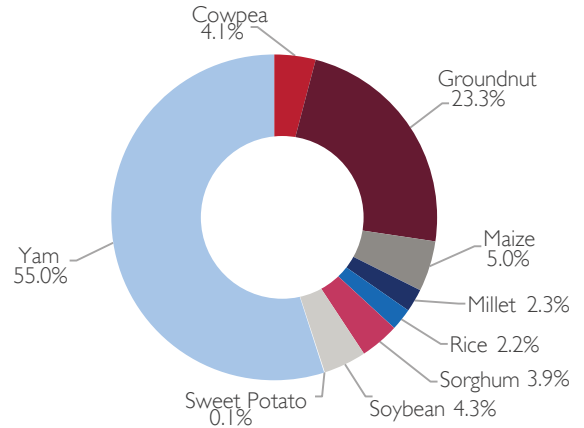
This section contains agricultural data for Wa West, such as production by commodity, gross margins and yields.

Agricultural production in Wa West is represented by the production of Yam, which accounts for the largest share, 55%. Other commodities produced, which accounted for much lower shares to the total quantity produced during 2012-2015 are groundnuts, and other commodities as shown in Figure 1. Wa West accounted for only 13.6% of the regional production in 2015.

Figure 2 contains gross margins for three commodities supported by USAID intervention in 2015. These values are higher when compared with APS values for this district for the same commodities.

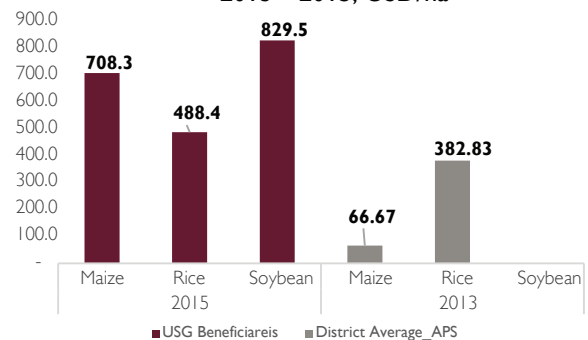
Yield data, presented in Figure 3, contain values of yields of these three commodities in 2015, 2014 and 2013 from three sources: USAID beneficiaries, Agriculture Production Survey and MOFA. The figure captures better yields of the direct beneficiaries in 2015 compared to the district average yields captured by the other sources.

Figure 1: Share of Agricultural Production, by Commodity, in Wa West, 2010 - 2015



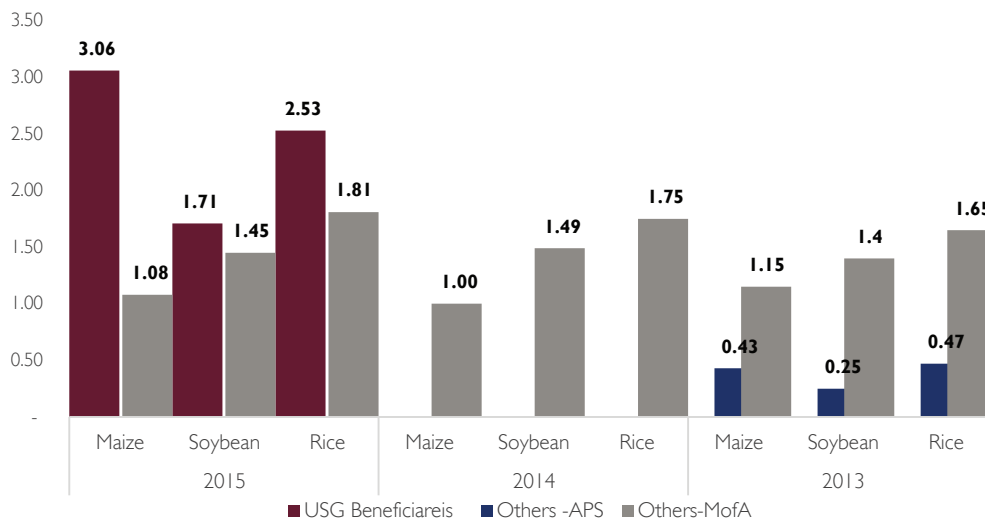
Source: Agriculture Production Reports 2011 - 2015, MOFA

Figure 2: Average Gross Margin in Wa West by Commodity, USG Beneficiaries and district's average, 2013 - 2015, USD/ha



Source: Agriculture Project Reporting 2015, Agriculture Production Survey, 2013, Kansas State University

Figure 3: Average Yields by Commodity in Wa West, USG Beneficiaries and district's average, 2013 - 2015, MT/ha



Source: Agriculture Production Reports 2011 - 2015, MOFA, APS 2013, USAID Project reporting 2015

All data and information including full citations can be accessed at [www.ghanalinks.org](http://www.ghanalinks.org)

This section contains agricultural data for Wa West including production by commodity (MT/ha), yields (MT/ha) and average land size.

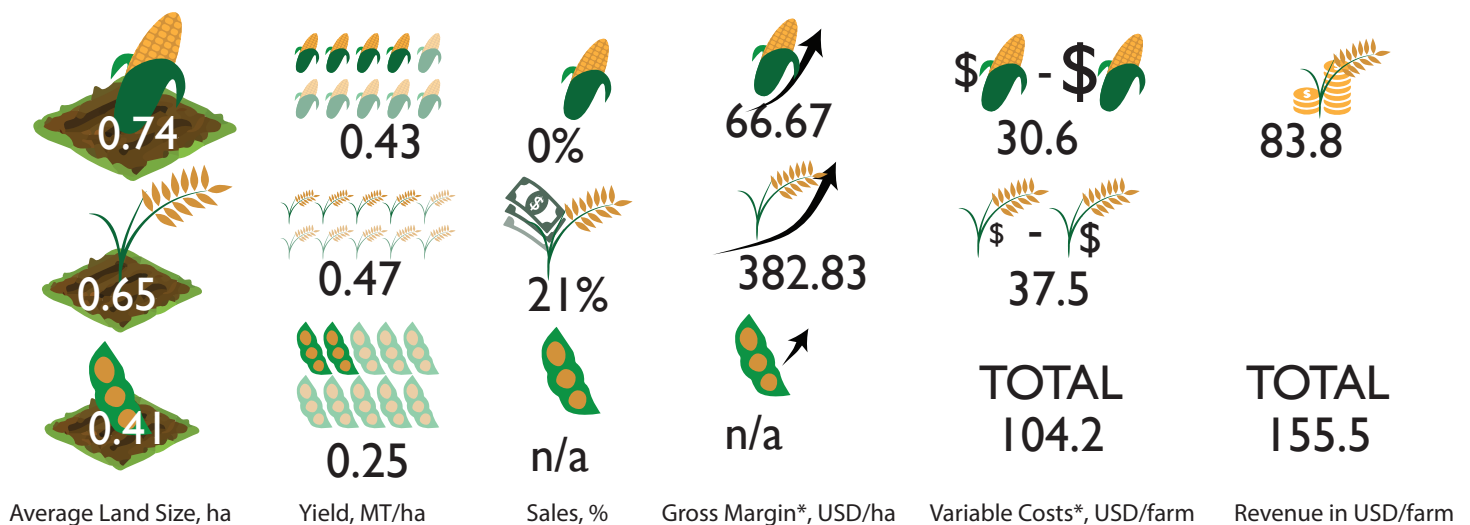
Table 2: Agricultural Production and Yields by commodity in MT and MT/ha, 2010-2015, Wa West

Commodity	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	Total
Cowpea	6,441	6,252	5,150	5,083	4,608	3,456	30,990
Groundnut	32,391	31,695	27,230	29,115	26,642	29,280	176,353
Maize	5,703	5,260	6,670	6,970	6,528	6,832	37,963
Millet	2,773	2,776	2,635	2,885	2,735	3,590	17,394
Rice	3,001	2,904	2,640	2,490	2,436	3,190	16,661
Sorghum	4,025	4,636	4,248	4,838	4,523	7,100	29,370
Soybean	5,239	5,439	4,760	4,194	5,798	6,800	32,229
Sweet Potato				420			420
Yam	91,962	86,849	67,511	59,354	55,293	55,642	416,611
Yields in MT/Ha	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	
Cowpea	1.24	1.20	1.03	1.07	1.00	0.90	
Groundnut	1.52	1.50	1.40	1.50	1.40	1.60	
Maize	1.08	1.00	1.15	1.21	1.20	1.40	
Millet	0.40	0.40	0.39	0.42	0.40	0.50	
Rice	1.81	1.75	1.65	1.66	1.60	2.20	
Sorghum	0.66	0.76	0.72	0.71	0.70	1.00	
Soybean	1.45	1.49	1.40	1.34	1.30	1.60	
Sweet Potato				12.00			
Yam	14.08	13.30	11.25	11.22	11.00	11.52	

Source: Agriculture Production Reports 2012- 2015, MOFA

Table 2 above provides detailed information on specific commodities in respect of the overall annual production in Wa West as well as average yields for the years 2012-2015. Infograph 2 gives information about farm indicators captured from Agriculture Production Survey 2013.

Infographic 2: Average Land size, Yields, Sales and other Farm indicators in Wa West, 2013



Source: Agriculture Production Survey, Kansas State University, 2013 \*Gross margin, variable cost and farm revenue captured from the APS in infographic 2 have been converted to USD using 2012 exchange rates (1.88 GHC to \$1 USD) to align with the 'farmer recall' survey methodology deployed.

All data and information including full citations can be accessed at [www.ghanalinks.org](http://www.ghanalinks.org)

## What is the Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index?

Women play a prominent role in agriculture. Yet they face persistent economic and social constraints. Women’s empowerment is a main focus of Feed the Future in order to achieve its objectives of inclusive agriculture sector growth and improved nutritional status. The WEAI is comprised of two weighted sub-indexes: Domains Empowerment Index (5DE) and Gender Parity Index (GPI). The 5DE examines the five domains of empowerment: production, resources, income, leadership and time. The GPI compares the empowerment of women to the empowerment of their male counterpart in the household. This section presents the results from these empowerment indicators of the 5DE for Wa West, part of a bigger survey conducted by Kansas State University.

### The Domains: what do they represent?

The Production domain assesses the ability of individuals to provide input and autonomously make decisions about agricultural production. The Resources domain reflects individuals’ control over and access to productive resources. The Income domain monitors individuals’ ability to direct the financial resources derived from agricultural production or other sources. The Leadership domain reflects individuals’ social capital and comfort speaking in public within their community. The Time domain reflects individuals’ workload and satisfaction with leisure time.

## Wa West Results

The results of both male and female respondents on the four domains are displayed in Figure 4.

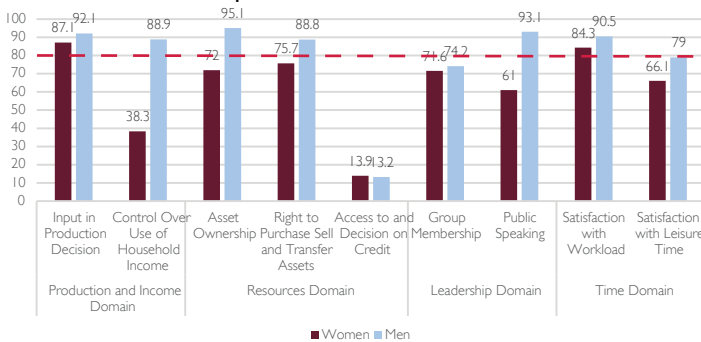
**Production Domain:** women feel comfortable with providing input related to production decisions as indicated by 87.1% of the women of the survey sample. However, they have much less control over the use of household income than men— 38.3% of women vs 88.9% of male respondents.

**Resource Domain:** a good majority of the women have a right to asset ownership and the right to purchase and move assets— 72% and 75.7% respectively. These figures are lower than the figures for the male respondents. Only 13.9% of the women have the right to decide or have access to credit, compared to 13.2% of the male respondents. Nonetheless, access to credit is almost equally low for both genders.

**Leadership Domain:** 71.6% and 61% of the women interviewed have the right to group membership and public speaking respectively.

**Time Domain:** A good majority of women in Wa West are satisfied with the workload in their everyday life— 84.3% of women as compared to 90.5% of men. The values decrease with respect to satisfaction with leisure time; 66.1% of women and 79% of men are satisfied with the amount of leisure time at their disposal.

Figure 4: Results of Domains of Empowerment from WEAI 2015, in percent, Wa West, 2015



Source: PBS 2015, Kansas State University

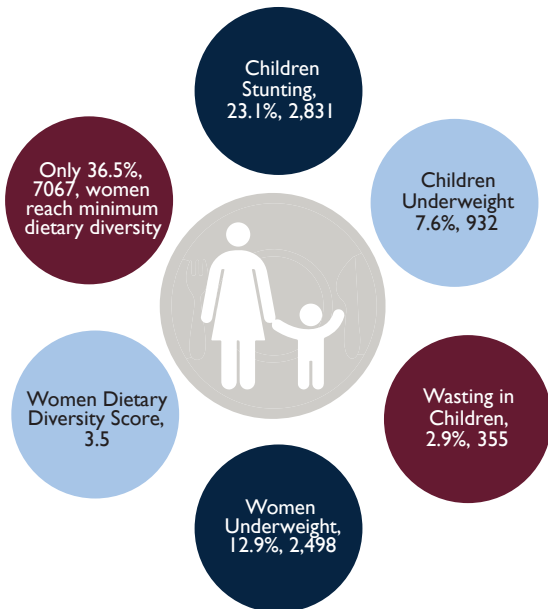
### { Adequacy & Differences }

Highest differences between male and female respondents are observed within production domain: the control over use of household income and the leadership domain: public speaking .

**Adequacy:** Together, men and women achieve adequacy in all indicators but access to and decision on credit, group membership and satisfaction with leisure time. In addition men achieve adequacy in control over use of household income, asset ownership, right to purchase and sell assets and public speaking, while women do not.

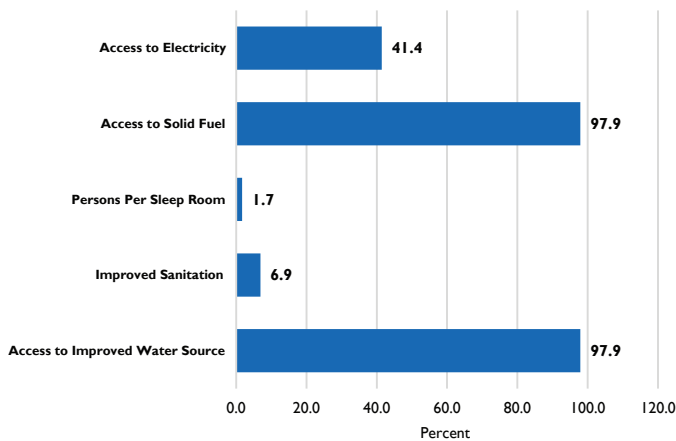
*This section contains facts and figures related to Health, Nutrition and Sanitation in Wa West*

Infograph 3: Health and Nutrition Figures, Wa West, 2015



Source: PBS 2015, Kansas State University, 2015

Figure 5: Household dwelling Characteristics, Wa West 2015



Source: PBS 2015, Kansas State University, 2015,

Infograph 3 focuses on the health and nutrition of women and children in the district. Percentages and absolute numbers are revealed in the respective circles for stunting, wasting, children and women underweight as well as Women Dietary Diversity: The WDDS is based on nine food groups. A woman's score is based on the sum of different food groups consumed in the 24 hours prior to the interview. Women Minimum Dietary Diversity (MDD-W) represents the proportion of women consuming a minimum of five food groups out of the possible ten food groups based on their dietary intake. The Dietary diversity score of women in Wa West is 3.5, which means that women consume on average 3 to 4 types of foods out of 10. Less than half of women (only 36.5%) reach the minimum dietary diversity of 5 food groups. Wa West has the lowest rate of wasting in children in the Upper West Region.

Figure 5 displays specifics of household dwelling, evaluated based on the sources of water, energy, waste disposal, cooking fuel source, and the number of people per sleep room as measured from the PBS Survey, 2015. Wa West accounts for the lowest access to improved sanitation and electricity in the Upper West Region.



This section provides an analysis of USAID presence vis-a-vis impact indicators in Wa West

Presence vs. Impact reveals in more detail the presence of the Feed the Future Implementing Partners in the field, in combination with impact indicators measured by the Population Based Survey in 2012 and 2015: per capita expenditure & prevalence of poverty. This combination aims to show relevance of the presence of key indicators measuring progress/regress in the area. The following graphs are a print screen of the Presence vs. Impact Dashboard focusing on Wa West. Both key impact indicators, 'prevalence of poverty' and 'per capita expenditure', have improved. See Figure 6 and 8.

In 2015, poverty decreased by 47.3 percentage points value to 26.7% compared to 2012, leaving the population of the poor at 23,630 persons. In addition, the 2015 per capita expenditure increased by 48.4 percent to 4.29 USD. This is accompanied by a average USAID presence score of 2.1 out of 4. Therefore, the district is flagged GREEN (good project presence and intervention combined with improving impact indicators).

Wa West is a district in which things are going very well and this is well aligned with USAID project intervention on the ground. That said, the GOG or other donors interventions were not captured in the calculation. Efforts should be focused on keeping development at least at the same pace, understand reasons of success and keep the district flag green.

## USAID District Presence Score

- 0** NO USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE
- 0.1 - 1** LOW USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE
- 1.1 - 1.9** BELOW AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE
- 2** AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE
- 2.1 - 3** ABOVE AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE
- 3.1 - 4** HIGH USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE

## USAID District Presence Vs. Impact Flag

- BELOW AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND CONTRADICTIONING IMPACT INDICATORS
- ABOVE AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND CONTRADICTIONING IMPACT INDICATORS
- BELOW AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND REGRESSING IMPACT INDICATORS
- ABOVE AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND IMPROVING IMPACT INDICATORS
- BELOW AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND IMPROVING IMPACT INDICATORS
- ABOVE AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND REGRESSING IMPACT INDICATORS

Figure 6: Poverty in % and Poverty Change in percentage points, 2012,2015, Wa West

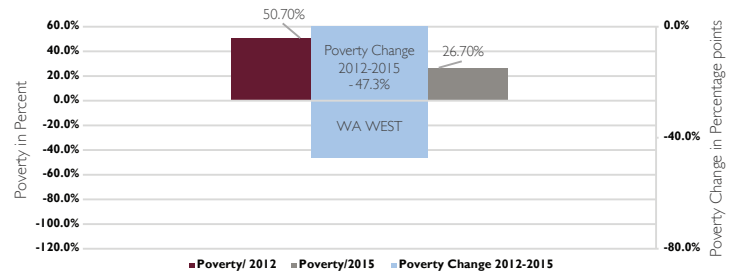


Figure 7: Population of Poor, Non - Poor Wa West, 2015

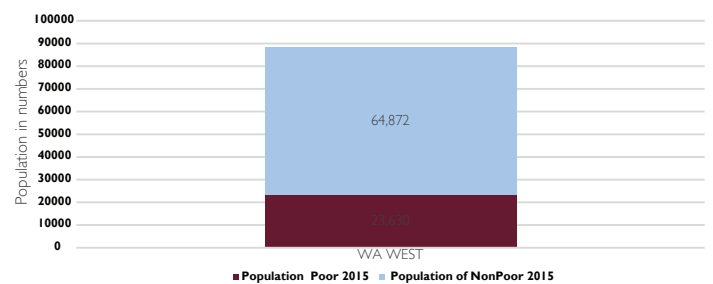
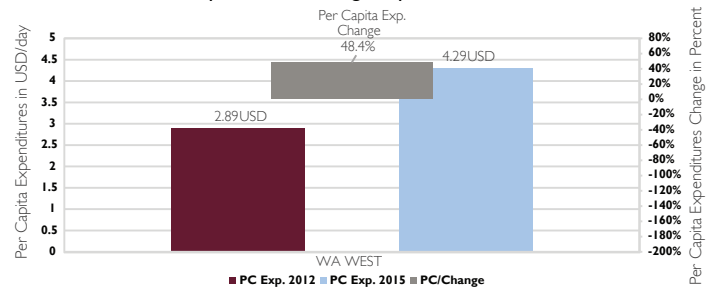


Figure 8: Per Capita Expenditures in 2012 and 2015, in USD/day; Per Capita Expenditures Change in percent, Wa West

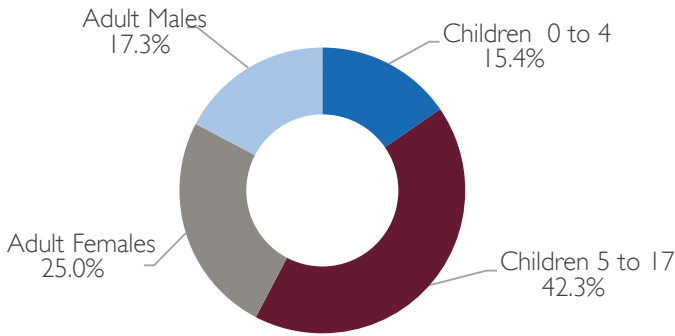


Source: Figure 6,7,8, Population based Survey, 2012,2015, Kansas State University, METSS, USAID Project Reporting 2014,2015

All data and information including full citations can be accessed at [www.ghanalinks.org](http://www.ghanalinks.org)

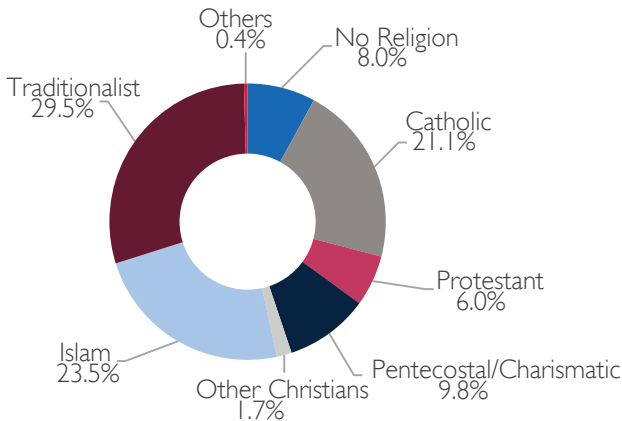
*This section contains facts and figures related to Wa West demographics, religious affiliation, literacy and weather indicators*

**Figure 9: Household composition by groupage, Wa West, 2015**



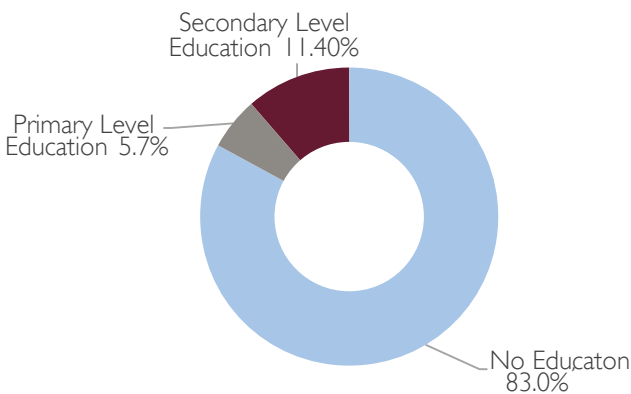
Source: PBS 2015, Kansas State University

**Figure 10: Religious Affiliation, Wa West 2010**



Source: Tamale Metropolis Analytical Report, GSS, 2014

**Figure 11: Education Attainment in Wa West, 2015**



Source: PBS 2015, Kansas State University

Wa West has a total area of 1492.0 square kilometers and a total population of 88,502, out of which 44,737 are females and 43,765 males. The average household size in the district is 5.2 persons.

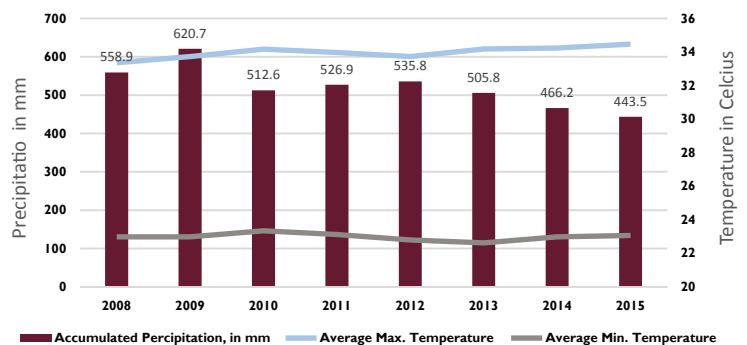
The District lies in the tropical continental climacteric zone. Average precipitation and temperature are similar to the other districts in the Upper West Region. Figure 12 shows the average maximal and minimal temperatures as well as yearly average precipitation.

Wa West, like many other districts in the Upper West Region, has a relatively young population as shown in Figure 6, with more than 50% of the population falling in the age range: 0 to 17 years old. The female population is larger than the male population as a ratio in the household as shown in graph 9.

In terms of religious affiliation, the majority of the population are Christians (38.6%) followed by Traditionalists, which account for 29.5% of the population and Muslims (23.5%). For more details refer to figure 10.

The district accounts for an adult illiteracy rate of 83% . Only 5.7% of adults went through primary school while 11.4% made it further to secondary school.

**Figure 12: Average Accumulated Precipitation in mm and Average Temperature in Celcius, in Wa West 2008 - 2015**



Source: awhere Weather Platform, AWhere, 2016

All data and information including full citations can be accessed at [www.ghanalinks.org](http://www.ghanalinks.org)



*This section contains discussion questions and potential research topics as a result of the data and analysis presented on Wa West*

**QUESTION 1**

Why does Wa West have the lowest value of stunting in children but the highest level of household hunger in the Upper West Region?

**QUESTION 2**

What other agricultural or nutrition focused development partner or GoG interventions have previously been implemented, are ongoing, and/or are in the pipeline that may impact Wa West's development?

**QUESTION 3**

Given Wa West's agricultural production, health and sanitation figures, as well as results from the presence vs impact matrix, where should USAID development work focus on in the next two years? What future development assistance would be helpful for Wa West to keep the district flag green?

**QUESTION 4**

Why does Wa West have the lowest access to improved sanitation? How does this district differ from Lawra, in the same region and much better values of this indicator?

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