

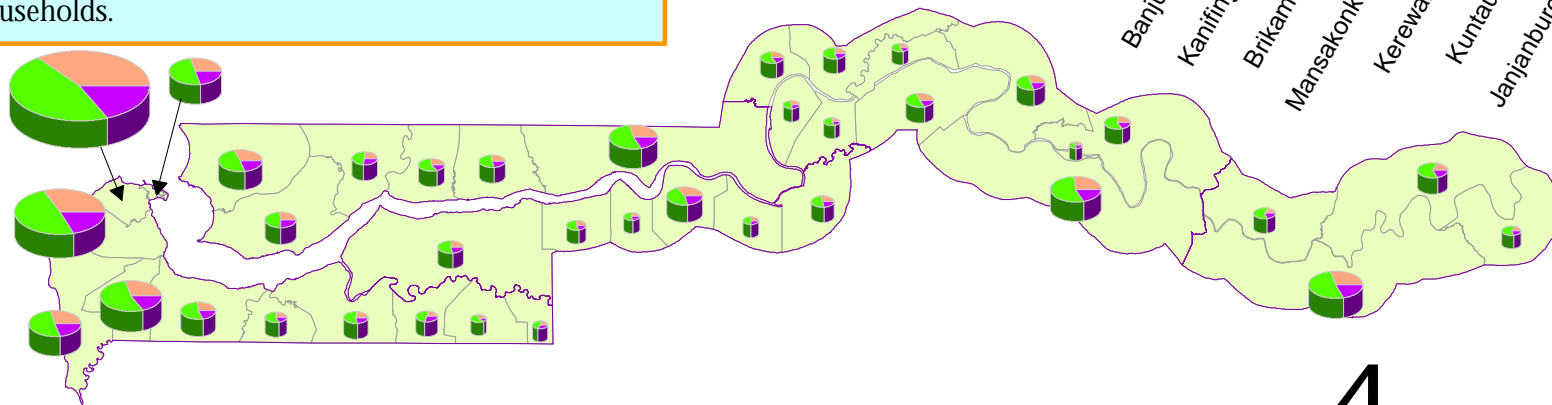
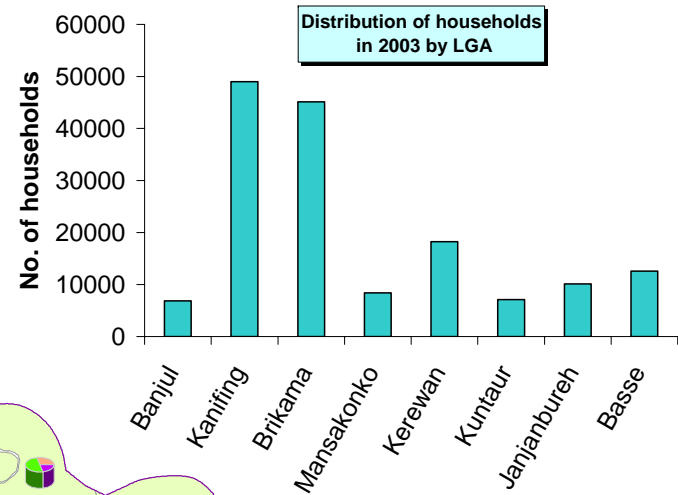


Chapter 3. Housing and Housing Characteristics



Type of households in 2003

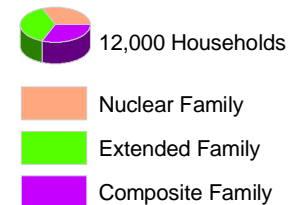
Fifty percent of all normal households were identified as extended family households, 32% nuclear families and the remaining 18% composite. Normal households are those not considered institutional households such as hospitals, boarding schools, main prison, army barracks, etc. The nuclear family category is most common in major urban centers (Banjul and Kanifing) where it constitutes more than 30% of all households.



0 15 30 60 Kilometers

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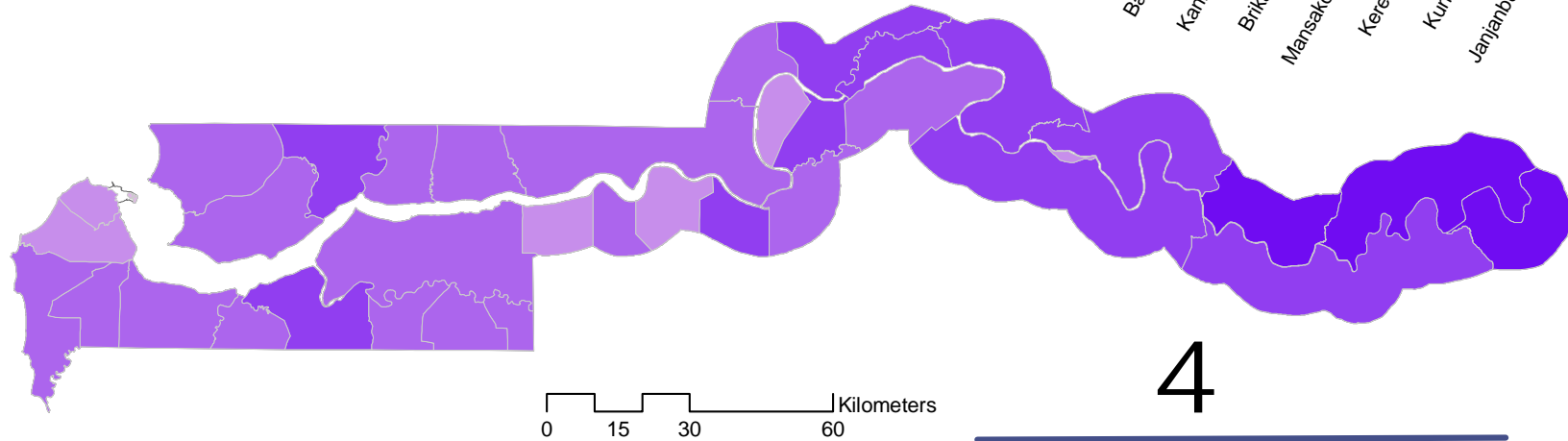
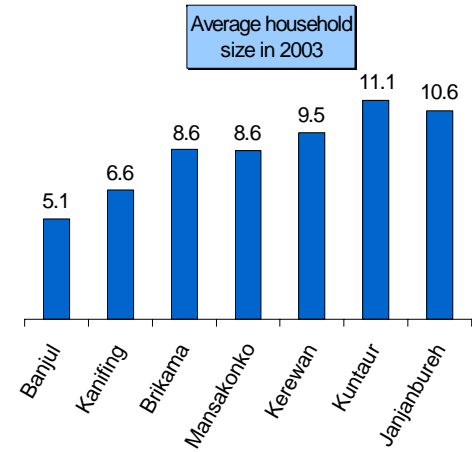
Type of households in 2003



Population data: The Gambia Population and Housing Census 2003
 District boundary data: The Gambia 50000 dataset. Department of State for Local Government and Lands, 2001.

Average Household Size in 2003

Average household size in 2003 for The Gambia was 8.5 persons per household. In general household size is smaller in urban areas than in rural areas. Districts in Eastern Gambia (Upper River and Central River Divisions) have larger households than the rest of the country.

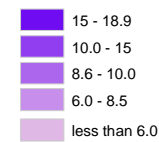


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Districts with largest and smallest average household size in 2003

District	Household size	District	Household size
Kantora	19	Jarra West	7
Wuli	15	Kanifing	7
Sandu	15	Banjul North	5
Fuladu East	13	Banjul South	5
Upper Saloum	12	Banjul Central	5

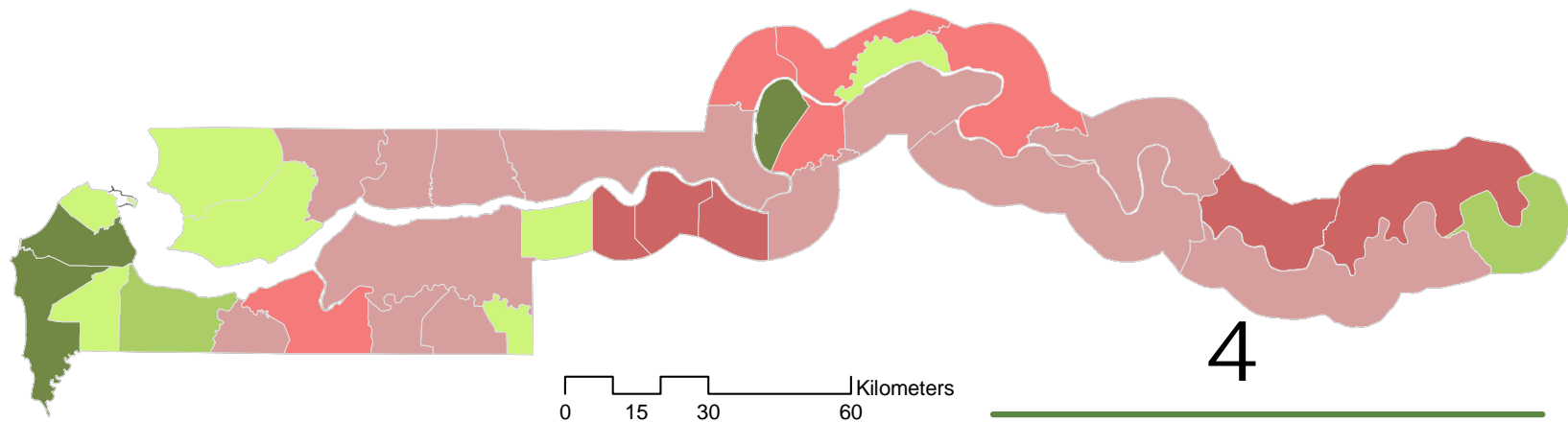
Average household size in 2003
*National ave = 8.5 persons per household



Population data: The Gambia Population and Housing Census 2003
District boundary data: The Gambia 50000 dataset. Department of State for Local Government and Lands, 2001.

Change in household size, 1993 to 2003

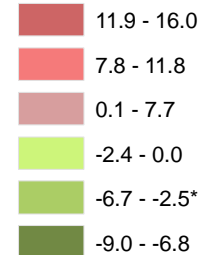
Between 1993 and 2003, rapid rural-urban migration and the disproportionately higher number of small nuclear families in urban centers have generally driven down the national average household size from 9.3 to 8.9 persons. Higher than average proportion of extended family households in rural districts particularly in Upper River and Central River Divisions, have resulted in generally larger average household sizes.



District that experienced the greatest increase or decrease (negative values) in average household size between 1993 to 2003

District	Percentage	District	Percentage
Kombo North	127	Lower Saloum	-12
Kombo Central	71	Kiang East	-11
Kanifing	58	Banjul South	-7
Kombo South	54	Jarra Central	-6
Kombo East	43	Banjul North	-4

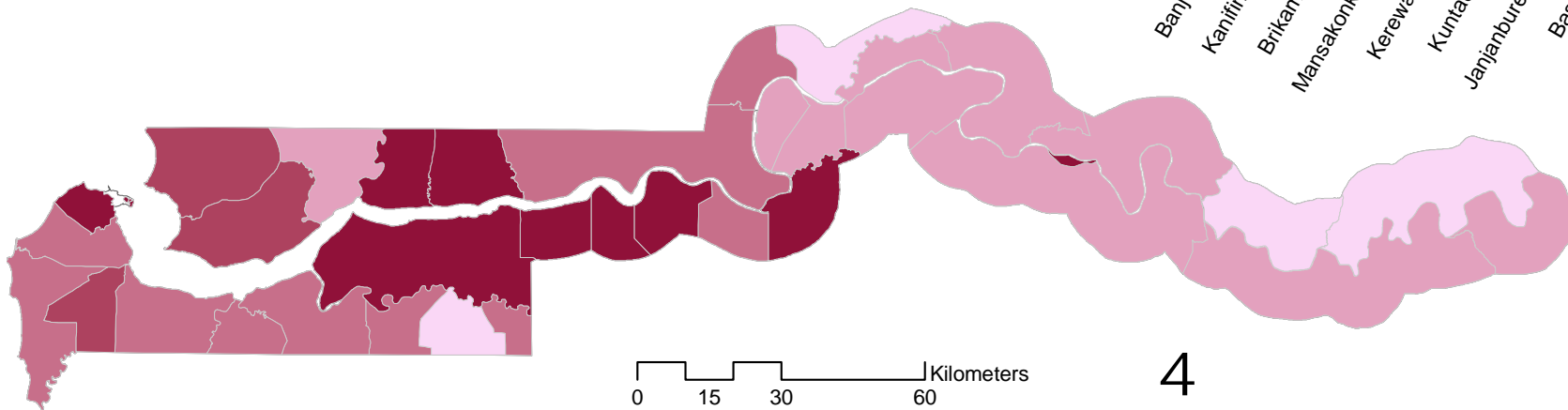
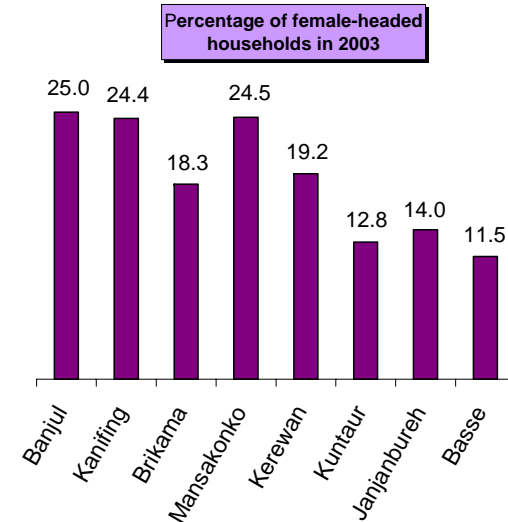
Percentage change in household size from 1993 to 2003.
 Negative value denotes decrease in household size
 * National rate = -4.5%



Population data: The Gambia Population and Housing Census 2003
 District boundary data: The Gambia 50000 dataset. Department of State for Local Government and Lands, 2001

Female-headed households in 2003

One in five households in The Gambia is headed by a female. Overall, Upper River and Central River Divisions have smaller percentage of households headed by females than the rest of the country. Female-headed households are more prevalent in Kerewan and Mansakonko LGAs where migration among males to the urban centers and overseas is high.

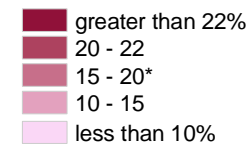


Districts with highest and lowest percentage of female-headed households

District	%	District	%
Jarra West	27.0	Upper Saloum	8.0
Banjul South	26.9	Sandu	8.3
Banjul Central	25.9	Wuli	8.8
Jarra East	25.2	Foni Bondali	9.7
Lower Baddibu	24.4	Nianija	10.0

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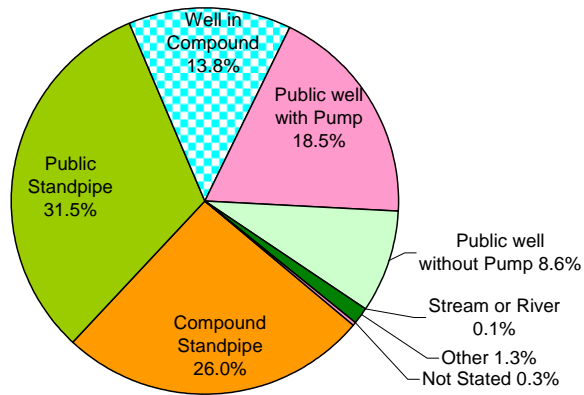
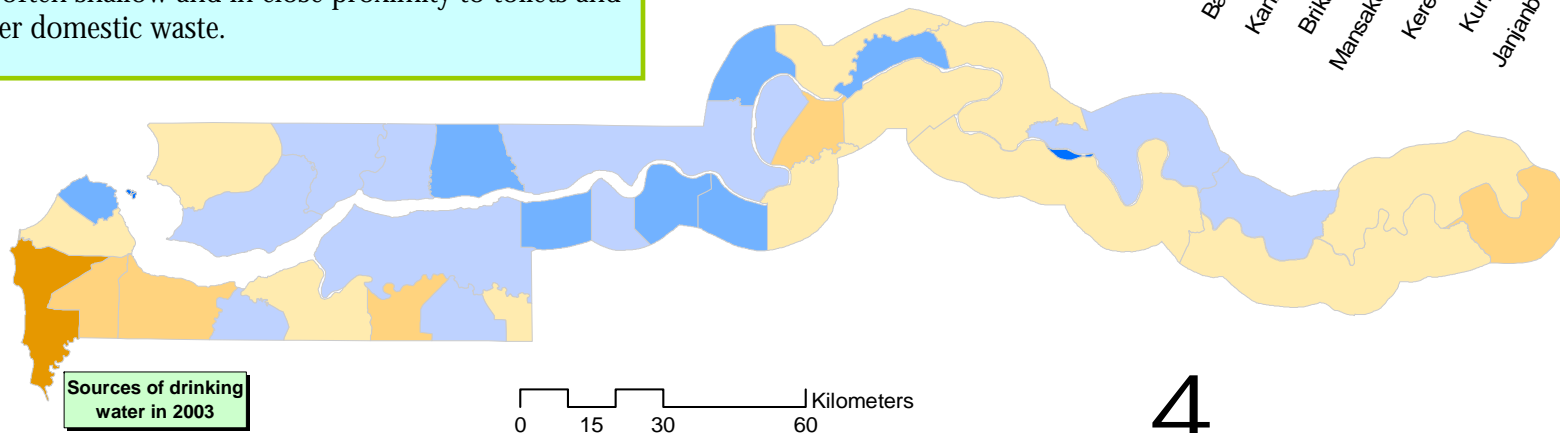
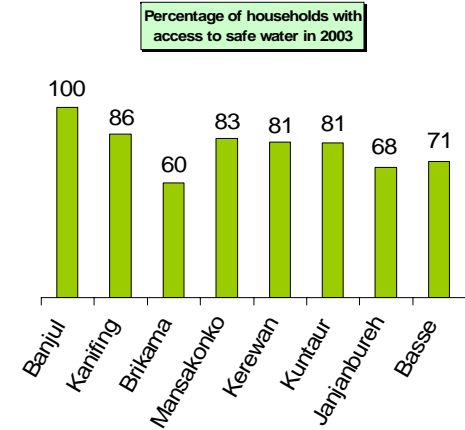
Percentage of female-headed households in 2003. *National total = 20%



Population data: The Gambia Population and Housing Census 2003
 District boundary data: The Gambia 50000 dataset. Department of State for Local Government and Lands, 2001.

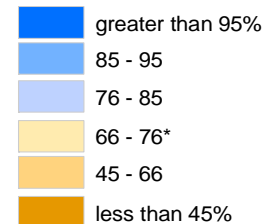
Access to safe water supply in 2003

Seventy-six percent of households in 2003 have access to a safe water source. Safe water sources include piped water or closed concrete lined wells. Districts in Kombo have the lowest proportion of their households with access to safe water supply. Many households in Kombo get their water from hand-dug wells in individual compounds. These wells are often shallow and in close proximity to toilets and other domestic waste.



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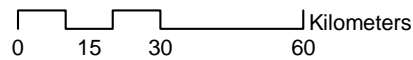
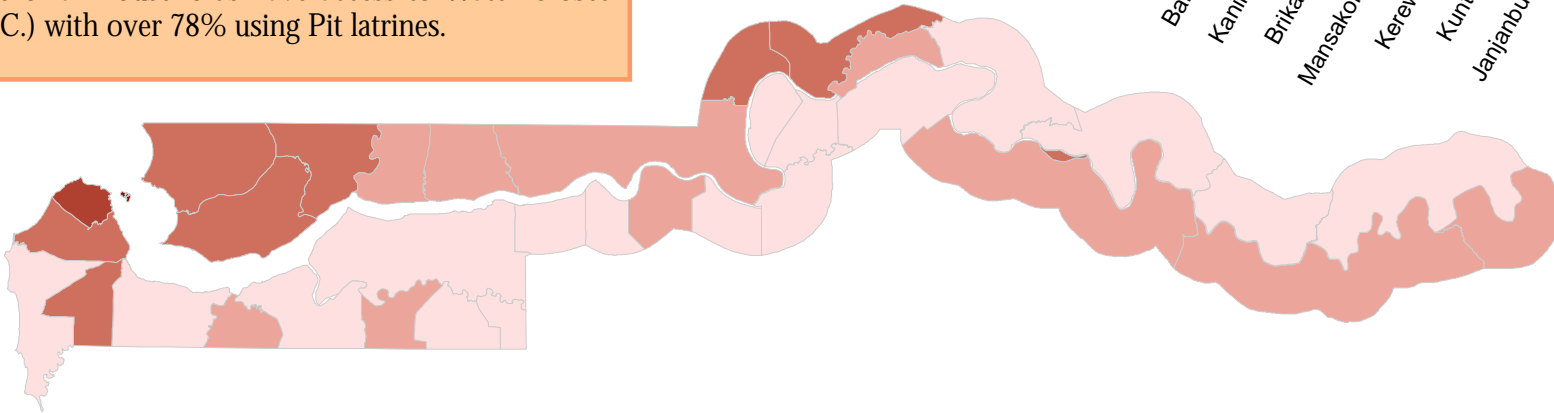
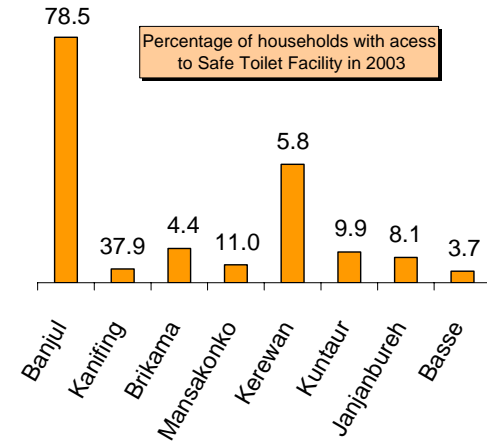
Proportion of households with access to safe water supply. *National total = 76%



Population data: The Gambia Population and Housing Census 2003
 District boundary data: The Gambia 50000 dataset. Department of State for Local Government and Lands, 2001.

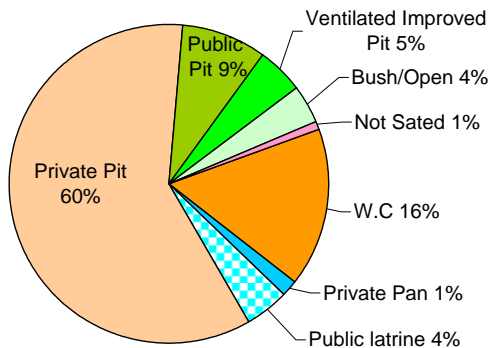
Access to safe toilet facilities in 2003

In 2003, only one in five households in The Gambia had access to safe toilet facilities. As expected, Banjul has the highest number of households with access to safe toilet facilities (79%). Outside Banjul and Kanifing, less than nine percent of the households have access to safe toilet facilities. Only 16% of all households have access to Water Closet (W.C.) with over 78% using Pit latrines.

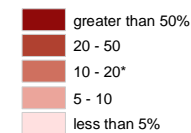


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Types of toilet facilities in 2003



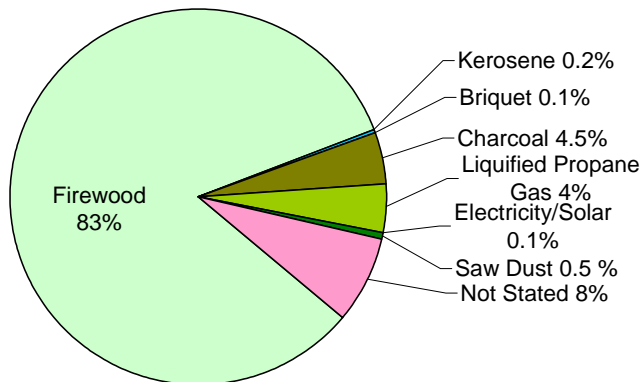
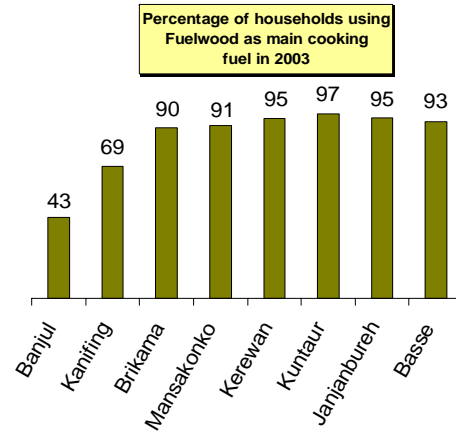
Percentage of households with safe toilet facility in 2003
*National rate = 20%



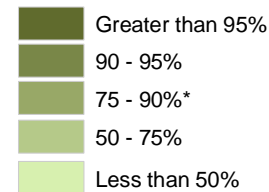
Population data: The Gambia Population and Housing Census 2003
District boundary data: The Gambia 50000 dataset. Department of State for Local Government and Lands, 2001.

Proportion of households using firewood as main cooking fuel in 2003

Eighty-three percent of all households reported using firewood as main cooking fuel. Other cooking fuels include charcoal (4.5%); Liquefied Propane Gas, LPG (4%) and electricity (0.1%, although the later is used in relatively very small quantity). Firewood is dominant fuel in all areas including Banjul where about 50 percent of households still use it as cooking fuel.



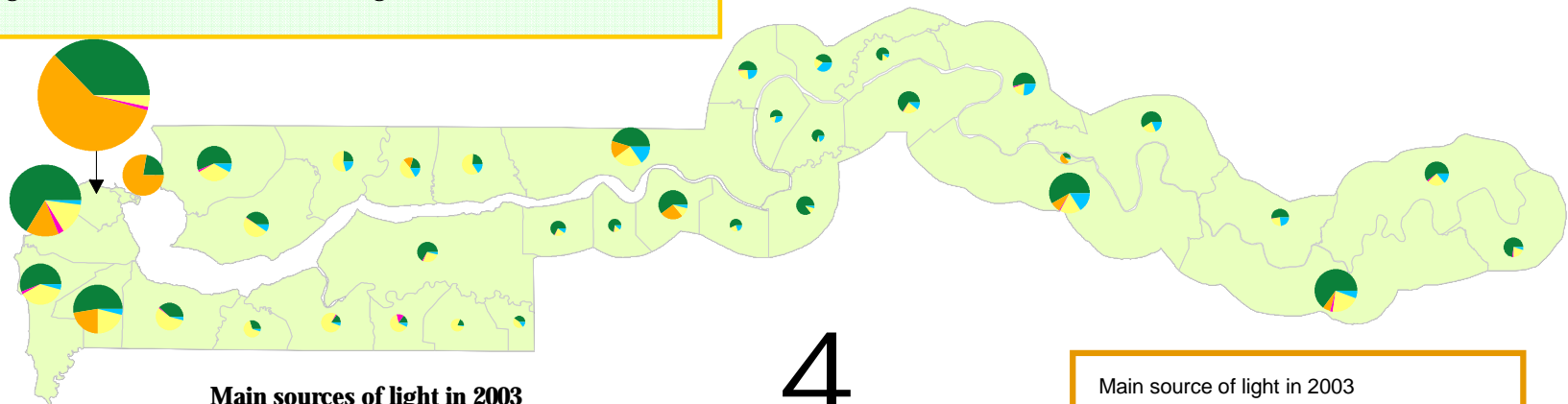
Proportion of households using fuelwood as main cooking fuel
*National total = 83%



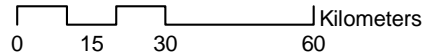
Population data: The Gambia Population and Housing Census 2003
District boundary data: The Gambia 50000 dataset. Department of State for Local Government and Lands, 2001.

Main source of light in 2003

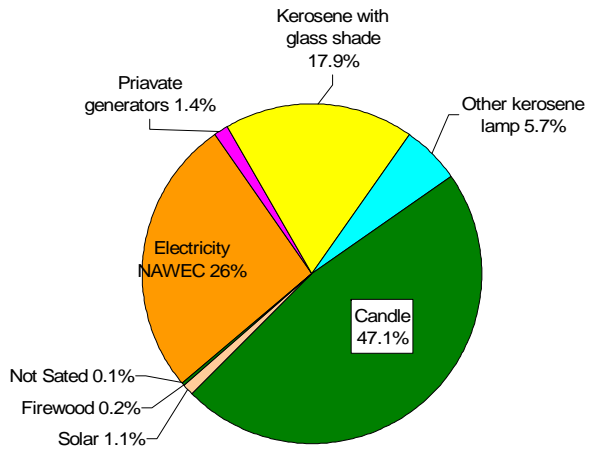
Main source of light is an important indicator in assessing quality of housing and welfare of households. More affluent population tend to use electricity for main light than other sources. Forty-seven percent of all households use candle as main source of light in the Gambia followed by electricity (26%) and kerosene lamps (24%). Other sources of light include solar, less than one tenth of one percent and firewood two-tenths of a percent. Thirty-two percent of households using firewood as main source of light reside in Kuntaur.



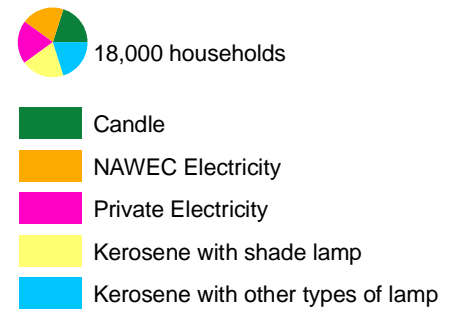
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Main sources of light in 2003



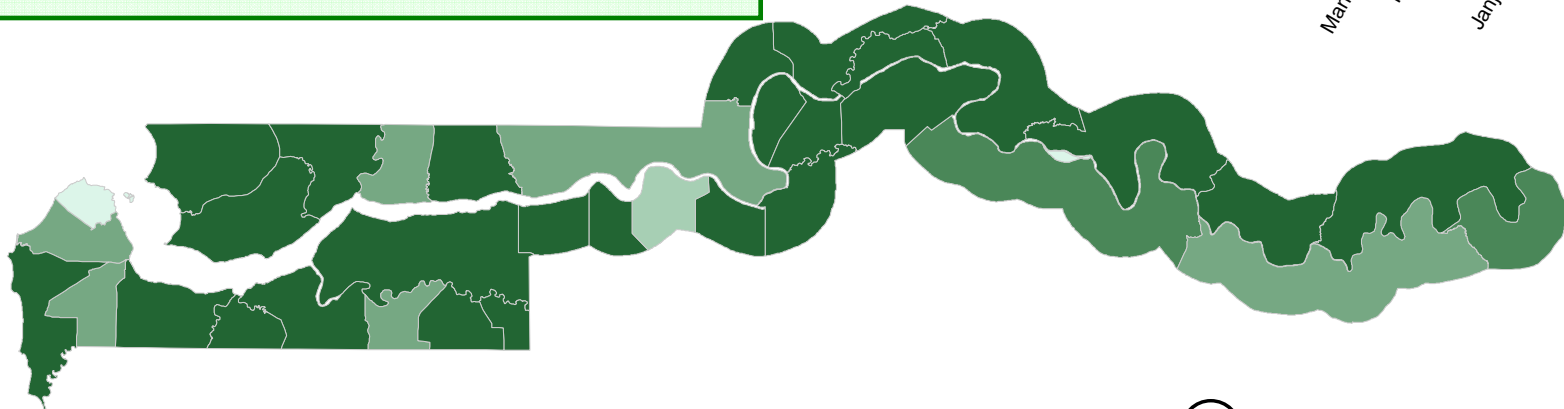
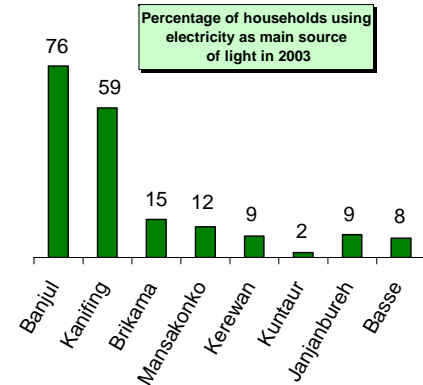
Main source of light in 2003



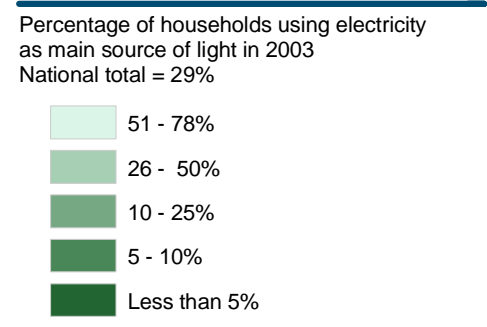
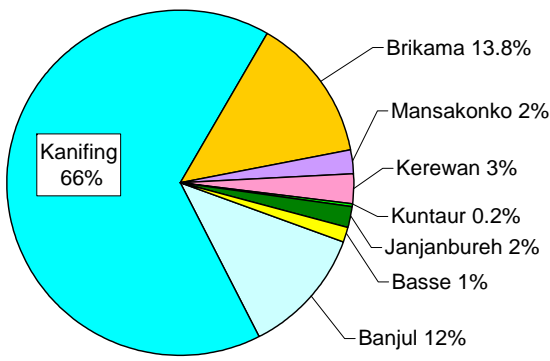
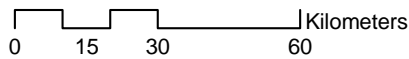
Population data: The Gambia Population and Housing Census 2003
 District boundary data: The Gambia 50000 dataset. Department of State for Local Government and Lands, 2001.

Electricity as main source of light in 2003

Nationwide, about twenty-nine percent of households, used electricity as main source of light in 2003. Banjul has the highest proportion of households with electricity as the main source of light (76%) and Kanifing (59%). Outside Banjul and Kanifing, only 11% of households use electricity for lighting. Kuntaur LGA, with only 2% of households using electricity as main source of light had the lowest proportion of electricity users.



Distribution of households using electricity as main source of light



Population data: The Gambia Population and Housing Census 2003
District boundary data: The Gambia 50000 dataset. Department of State for Local Government and Lands, 2001.