



Timor-Leste



Ministeriu Finansas

# Population and Housing Census 2015

## Preliminary Results



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2015

# Foreword



The third census of independent Timor-Leste was conducted from 11th to 25th July; 2015. I am proud that a young country like ours has conducted three censuses after independence within a span of 13 years. The first census was conducted in the year 2004 followed by the second in 2010. It gives me great pleasure to announce the preliminary results of 2015 Population and Housing Census .The successful planning, enumeration and timely publishing of the preliminary results is the result of literally thousands of hours of work done by thousands of census staff members. Census is the biggest administrative and most complex exercise in the country and although as per UN recommendations population censuses can be conducted once in ten years but for a young country like ours it was essential to do census after five years to have reliable data for evidence based decision making. It is my sincere hope that the preliminary results and the subsequent data will be used widely as input for the evaluation of ongoing schemes and formulation of future policies and programmes.

As per the preliminary results, the population of Timor-Leste was 1,167,242 on the night of 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2015, which means that population increase of 9.46 percent was recorded in the last five years between 2010 and 2015.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to each and every individual who contributed to make this national event a great success. I am personally thankful to Santina Viegas Cardoso, Finance Minister, Helder Lopes, Vice Finance Minister, Antonio Freitas, Director General, GDS, Elias do Santos Ferreira, Director, GDS, Silvino Lopes, Director, GDS, Paulina R. C. Viegas, Directora, GDS, Beatriz Pereira, Directora, GDS, Afonso Paixao Martins, Director, GDS, Cristino Gusmao, Census Coordinator, GDS, John Pile, Country Representative, UNFPA, Arun Kumar Singh, Census Technical Specialist, trainers, publicity professionals, and district managers for working tirelessly and making the 2015 census exercise successful. The officers and staff of General Directorate of Statistics deserve my special appreciation for having worked day and night for the success of the census. My thanks are also due to UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF, BPS, Indonesia and Australian Bureau of Statistics for having supported the Census exercise. I also appreciate role of the three telecommunication companies, Viz., Timor Telecom, Telkomcel and Telemor for their valuable assistance in operating call center during the census exercise.

For the field operations of 2015 census about 5,000 employees were engaged as Trainers, co- coordinators, supervisors, enumerators, and GPS takers . They all deserve my sincere appreciation. I am particularly thankful to the enumerators and the GPS takers who left no stone unturned to make this exercise successful. They had to work long hours to meet people at their house and collect information.

Lastly, I am grateful to the people of Timor-Leste for supporting and participating in this exercise of great national importance and sharing their information with the interviewers. Without their cooperation this exercise could not have been successfully accomplished.

Dr. Rui Maria de Araujo

Prime Minister of Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste (RDTL)

# PREFACE



The 2015 Census was the third census in the history of independent Timor-Leste. It gives me great satisfaction that the preliminary results of 2015 census are timely released after successful completion of enumeration phase. The provisional population of Timor-Leste stands at 1,167,242 showing an increase of 100,883 persons over the 2010 population. This population figure will be used as a provisional figure until the main census results are released. This publication is first in the series of publications to be released for the 2015 census. The main results to be released in the middle of next year will give detailed information on demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population and the housing units. I sincerely hope that the information contained in this brief report and the subsequent ones will be utilized in national planning process by the line ministries and other stakeholders.

It is important to commend efforts of all those who were engaged in one way or the other for successful completion of census. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Members of Parliament for having examined and timely cleared the Census Law for the 2015 Census. I would like to specially thank the members of the two committees National Census Steering Committee chaired by the Prime Minister and the Census Technical Committee chaired by the Director General, GDS for the job well done. My special appreciation goes to Helder Lopes and Antonio Freitas for taking lead role in successful completion of the census exercise. I also sincerely acknowledge the tireless contribution of all advisors, and field staff (supervisors, enumerators and GPS operators).

The census being an enormous, complex and costly operation was accomplished through concerted efforts of many organizations, institutions, government ministries and individuals who assisted in various ways in preparation, collection, compilation, analysis and publishing of results. I on behalf of Ministry of Finance would like to thank each one of them.

Our sincere gratitude is due to UNFPA for providing all the technical and financial support throughout the census process. UNFPA has also helped government in building capacity of Staff at GDS through training key staff members. I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of UN Women in census publicity campaign for better capture of gender information. Special appreciation also goes to BPS, Indonesia Statistics Office. It provided four of their key staff to monitor our field enumeration and also to assist in compilation of preliminary results. The Australian Bureau of Statistics also provided their two staff for monitoring of field operations during enumeration. I would also like to appreciate efforts of the three telecom companies for running the call center during the whole enumeration exercise.

Lastly, I would like to record my deep appreciation to the people of Timor-Leste, who listened to the publicity messages, checked SMSs on their mobile phones, warmly welcomed the interviewers at their home and generously gave information. Nothing could have been accomplished without their active support and cooperation. The 2015 census is humble and heartfelt gratitude to million plus population of our country.

Santina Viegas Cardoso,  
Minister of Finance (RDTL)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



The third Census of Timor-Leste was held from 11th July to 25th July, 2015 by General Directorate of Statistics under Ministry of Finance. The main theme of the census was "Census from People to People: Be part of it". The objective of the census is to collect, compile, analyze and effectively disseminate the results in a time bound manner. The Preliminary Results are being released within three months of the conduct of census. This is a first publication in the series and will be followed by a series of publications giving detailed priority tables up to Municipality, Administrative Post and Suco levels and thematic reports on various topics like Fertility and Nuptiality, Mortality, Population Projections, Migration and Urbanization, Housing, Labour Force, Disability, Literacy and Education, Gender, Youth, and the Census Atlas etc. We hope that the Census Reports will be widely used by the line ministries, UN and other international agencies and stakeholders for policy and programme formulation, decision making in planning and administrative processes and for evaluation and monitoring of ongoing schemes.

Literacy and Education, Gender, Youth, and the Census Atlas etc. We hope that the Census Reports will be widely used by the line ministries, UN and other international agencies and stakeholders for policy and programme formulation, decision making in planning and administrative processes and for evaluation and monitoring of ongoing schemes.

At the very outset General Directorate of Statistics would like to pay tribute to million plus people of Timor-Leste without whose support and active participation it would not have been possible to accomplish this gigantic task of national importance in time. Their overwhelming response has been the driving force behind the successful conduct of 2015 Census of Timor-Leste. We like to unequivocally acknowledge the hard work done by about 5,000 field staff consisting of supervisors, enumerators and GPS operators who toiled day and night to reach each and every house and collect information in respect of each eligible person. This devoted army of field workers accomplished the data collection task within stipulated time limit with a lot of sincerity. The National Trainers and Master Trainers who were specially engaged for training of field staff accomplished their job to our satisfaction and deserve accolades for their contribution.

We would like to express our gratitude to each and every member of the National Census Steering Committee, the Census Technical Committee, and the Census Advocacy and Publicity Committee for their invaluable suggestions and guidance in finalization of the census questionnaire, manuals, and for doing excellent publicity.

We would like to express our deep sense of gratitude to Hon'ble President of Timor-Leste and Hon'ble Prime Minister of Timor-Leste for their continuous guidance and support. We would also record our deep appreciation and gratitude for the guidance, support and encouragement of Hon'ble Finance Minister and Hon'ble Vice Finance Minister.

Census is a complex exercise and we would like to thank all the national and international agencies who contributed in making it a successful event. Special thanks are due to UNFPA for providing all the technical and financial support. We would also like to acknowledge contributions of UNICEF, UN Women, BPS, Indonesia, and Australian Bureau of Statistics in this national exercise. Selfless contribution of the three telecom companies (Timor Telecom, Telcomcel and Telemor) for running the call center during the conduct of census is also praise worthy. We hope to continue collaboration with these agencies in future events also.

Finally, we would like to thank each and every member of the Directorate General of Statistics (GDS) and the Census Secretariat in particular who toiled day and night for the last two years to make Census of Timor-Leste, 2015 a successful event. The team work and indomitable spirit of each and every member of GDS has enabled us to timely deliver first fruit of this mammoth exercise.

Antonio Freitas  
Director General, General Directorate of Statistics,  
Ministry of Finance (RDTL)

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## Introduction and background

2015 census is the third census, after 2004 and 2010 censuses, conducted in the history of independent Timor Leste. This census is extremely important for Timor Leste as the country is progressing fast on the path of becoming a strong, self-reliant and modern nation. The 2015 Population and Housing Census will provide disaggregated statistics at Municipality/Administrative Post and suco levels on demographic, socio-economic characteristics of the population and also provide data on housing and agriculture. The census results will provide valuable input for planning and policy formulation by the Government and will also be used by national and international agencies, scholars, business persons, industrialist and many more.

As per UN recommendations the Population Census in a country needs to be conducted at regular interval of ten years. However, the Government of Timor Leste decided to conduct 2015 census after a gap of five years. The reason for undertaking population census after five years is that the economy of Timor Leste is changing rapidly accompanied by demographic and socio-economic changes. In absence of regular reliable data on births and deaths and on demographic and socio-economic parameters from administrative records, the census will provide data for assessment of ongoing plans and policies of the government and formulation of evidence based future policies. It would basically provide data on distribution of population with age and sex structure which is vital for planning number of schools, hospitals, old age homes, and creating employment opportunities, etc., and also the data for analyzing levels and trends in different population characteristics like literacy and education, workforce, disability, fertility, mortality and migration as also housing characteristics. Thus the census results would help the Government to adopt realistic population policies ensuring balance between population growth, population distribution, the economy and the environment. Government would also be able to assess condition and location of different disadvantaged groups like homeless, disabled, aged, etc. and develop future plans for improving their condition.

The 2015 census data would be used to develop a master sample frame for carrying out future socio-economic surveys and inter-censal population/demographic and other surveys. It would provide data to work out indicators to measure targets set on national development priorities and international commitments like Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

It has been decided by the Government that the 2015 census will be followed by 2020 census and thereafter, the censuses will be conducted every ten years, i.e., 2030, 2040 and so on.

The implementation of activities for 2015 census started in the year 2013. A detailed census calendar was prepared covering time-schedule of all the activities up to 2017. Progress of each activity was closely monitored by the National Census Steering Committee chaired by the Prime Minister and the Census Technical Committee Chaired by the Director General, General Directorate of Statistics (GDS). The pilot census was successfully conducted in July, 2014 exactly one year prior to conduct of census. The Prime Minister, Finance Minister, Vice Finance Minister and the Director General, GDS took personal interest in the timely implementation of census activities and to make it a successful event. Technical support for the conduct of census was provided by UNFPA.

## 2015 Population and Housing Census

"A population census is the total process of collecting, compiling, evaluating, analyzing and publishing or otherwise disseminating demographic, economic and social data pertaining, at a specified time, to all persons in a country or in a well delimited part of a country."

*-Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses  
(Revision 2), United Nations: New York: 2008*

As in 2004 and 2010 censuses, de-facto methodology was maintained in 2015 census also. However, one question on residency status was included to collect de-jure population. The enumeration started on the night of 11/12th July, 2015 and ended on 25th July 2015. The questionnaires were administered to the head of the household or any other knowledgeable household member by trained enumerators. Special arrangements were made to cover special population groups, e.g., people in institutions like hospitals, jails, military camps, guests in hotels and lodges, street children and other houseless population.

This report presents preliminary results of 2015 census based on the manual compilation from Enumerator's Summary Sheet. It gives population totals by sex and number of households for the country, Municipalities and Administrative Posts. Rural-urban break-up of population is also presented in this report. The provisional figures presented in this report are likely to change when the main results are available after data processing.

## Census Mapping

Census cartographic exercise is an important step of Population and Housing Census which helps in ensuring the complete coverage of all areas in the country during enumeration. Cartographic processes ensure the coverage of whole landmass of the country without leaving or duplicating any pocket intended for enumeration. Through cartographic mapping, the administrative and logistics requirements for the actual census can also be planned realistically.

As an important step to undertake the preparations for the census, the delineation and printing of Enumeration Area maps for the Census commenced in beginning of the year 2015. Before delineation of Enumeration Areas, a landmark survey was undertaken throughout the country to finalize boundaries of Sucos and update the earlier landmarks and also collect new landmarks. Important landmarks covered in the landmark survey include, roads, rivers/rivulets, streams, schools, hospitals, hotels, Suco/Aldeia offices, Government institutions, antenna, etc. These landmarks help in identification of Enumeration Area boundary and location of important spots within EAs.

Specific objectives of mapping in population census process are as follows:

- Ensure that no pocket of land has been left out or duplicated.
- Ensure that all areas in the country are assigned to known administrative areas for the purpose of releasing the results
- Ensure that the EA map delineated is manageable within the actual census days.
- Ensure that EA maps are easily understood by the enumerator and guide him/her to identify boundaries and landmarks within EA.
- EA maps contain reasonable location of landmarks that make the boundaries easily identifiable on the ground.
- EA delineation is done within the smallest administrative units (Suco) and do not overlap with other administrative units.
- Required to assign personnel, materials and work out budget for each administrative area.
- Collects new GIS coordinates of household structure to reflect their spatial distribution in 2015 as compared to 2010 census.
- The census information collected would be disseminated using thematic maps.

## GPS Coordinates

The Geo-graphical positioning system (GPS) coordinates of each house were also collected in 2015 Census as was done in 2004 and 2010 censuses. The GPS coordinates will be used to portray the spatial distribution of houses in the country and also to build GIS database for various GIS applications and to carry out the thematic mapping which will be used during the dissemination of census information. A detailed Census Atlas will be prepared after the data processing and generation of requisite data.

## Finalization of Census Questionnaire

The census questionnaire was finalized by the Census Technical Committee under the chairmanship of Director General, GDS. The questionnaire has seven parts. These are Part1: Location Identification, Part2: Enumeration Particulars, Part 3: Household member's information, Part4: For all women aged 15 and above, Part5: Housing and household amenities, Part 6: Recent death information and Part 7: List of former household members living abroad. Part 7 of the questionnaire has been newly added in 2015. While most of the questions of 2010 have been continued in 2015 in view of comparability of information with the earlier census but some modifications/additions were done by the Census Technical Committee. The details of changes made in the questionnaire are as follows:

**Table 1: The details of changes made in the questionnaire**

Sl No.	Question NO	Details of Question
	Part 3	All household members
1	Part 3- P8	(Name's) age at first marriage in complete years
2	Part 3 – P11	Other Language(s)/dialect(s) known by (Name)- Give codes (write up to two languages(s)/dialect(s) in order of proficiency excluding mother tongue (P10)
3	Part 3- P38	Period of engagement in economic activity – 12 months Duration of time  (Name) worked last year 1. Worked for more than six months 2. Worked for 3 months or more but less than six months 3. Worked for less than three months Particulars of last live birth
	Part 4	All Women aged 15 years and above

Table 1 continue

**Table 1: The details of changes made in the questionnaire**

Sl No.	Question NO	Details of Question
4	Part 4-P52	Time taken to reach health facility (one way)
5	Part 4- 53	Mode of Travel
	Part 5	Housing and Household Amenities
6	Part 5-H5	Condition of dwelling unit
7	Part 5-H6	Number of rooms occupied by the household
8	Part 5-H7	Bathing Facility available to the household
9	Part 5-H9	Final disposal of sewage
10	Part 5-H10	Availability of Kitchen to the household
	Part 6	Recent deaths information
11	Part 6 – D5	Was death related to either accident or violence
	Part 7	New Part 7: List of former household members living abroad was added. This part included following questions
	Part 7 – F2	Name
	Part 7 – F3	Relationship to head of household
	Part 7- F4	Sex
	Part 7- F5	Age
	Part 7-F6	Country of residence
	Part 7 –F7	Reason of migration

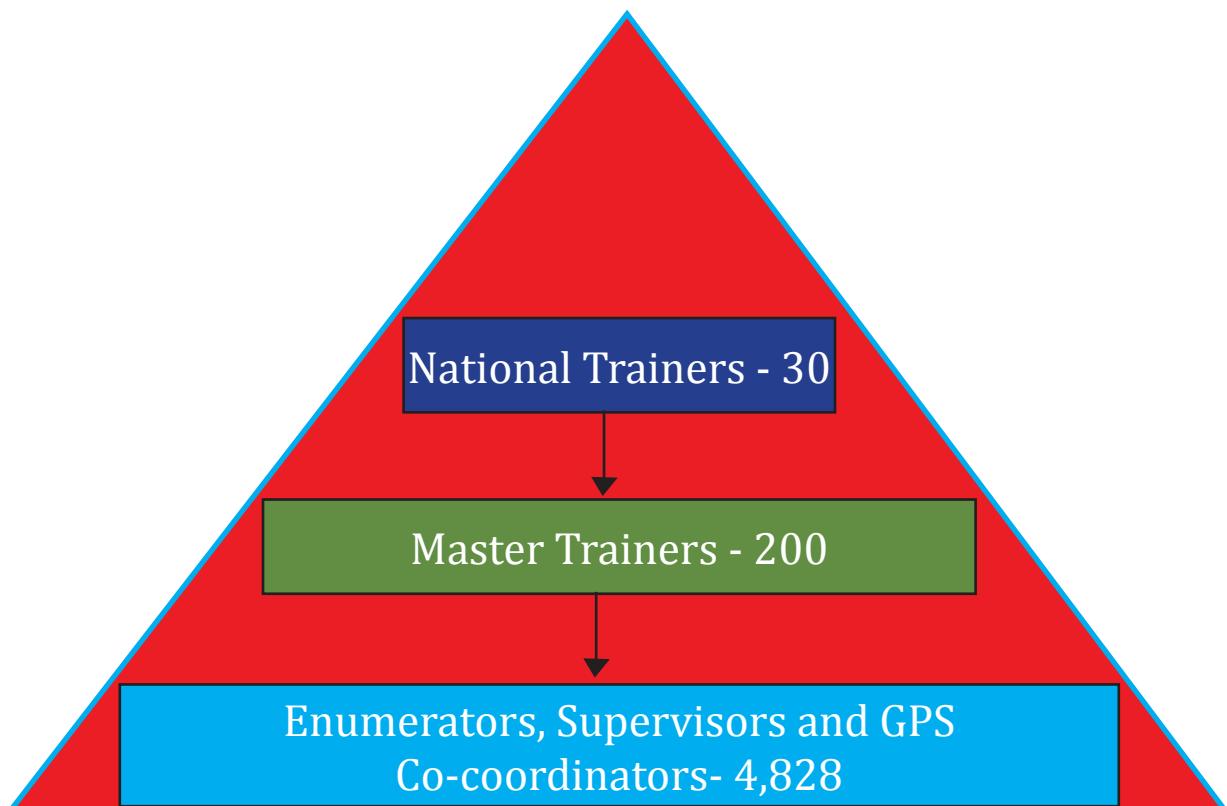
The new questions were tested in the Pilot census and after having been successfully canvassed they were included in the final questionnaire.

Besides above, questions on agriculture and livestock were added after the pilot census on the recommendation of Ministry of Agriculture and these were pre-tested by Ministry of Agriculture before inclusion in the census questionnaire.

A column on details of respondent (name, date and signature/thumb impression) was also added in Part 2 of the questionnaire. This was done to ensure that enumerators visit each household and the respondent can also check whether the responses given by him/her have been correctly recorded by the enumerator.

## Training

The need for comprehensive training of all the functionaries especially enumerators and supervisors is a must for successful conduct of field operations. A three tier cascade training programme was devised for this purpose.



Conduct of Training

At the top of the pyramid were 30 National Trainers. Their training was organized from 1st June to 10th June, 2015 at Dili and this was followed by training of 200 Master Trainers at Dili from 17th June to 26th June, 2015. The 200 master trainers further trained 4,828 field staff at Administrative Post level from 30th June to 8th July, 2015. All these trainings were of 8 days and included field visits in addition to training in the regular class. Special care was taken to improve interviewer's manual by giving more illustrations and pictures. Training guide was also prepared along with role plays. A standard power point presentation was made available to all the trainers. Filled-in Census Questionnaires and other forms like enumerator's summary sheet, GPS taker form and supervisor's progress reports were also made available to trainers. The Census Coordinators appointed for each Administrative Post also played vital role in making arrangements and imparting of training.



Conduct of Training

## Publicity

The importance of publicity for creating awareness among people to support and participate in census is vital for the success of census. In Timor Leste a well-planned publicity strategy was used in 2015 census. The publicity activity was mainly supported by UNFPA. An international consultant developed the Advocacy and Publicity Strategy and it was successfully implemented in the census. One Publicity Messenger for each Administrative Post was deployed by the General Directorate of statistics. He/she was responsible for carrying out all the publicity activities in his / her Administrative Post.

Prime Minister himself took interest in Census Publicity and instructed to do lunching of census in a big way both in the capital and at the Municipality level. Launching of census was done by the Prime minister in Dili on 8th June, 2015 and it was followed by launching at Municipality level. A Census Logo was developed and a census mascot was adopted for the first time in 2015.



Launching of Census by Hon'ble Prime Minister RDTL

The following was the census slogan of 2015 census:

**“SENSUS HUSI POVU BA POVU; HOLA PARTE BA!”**

**“CENSUS FROM PEOPLE TO PEOPLE; BE PART OF IT!”**

Bill boards were placed at important sites in Dili and in all Municipalities and posters were displayed at all levels like Municipality, Administrative Post and Suco. Pamphlets were distributed among general public, religious leaders, media, women associations, teachers, etc. A jingle was prepared and used for radio advertisements and also by the publicity messengers. Video films for TV advertisements were made by a professional company. It was ensured that all the publicity materials like bill boards, posters, and radio/ TV advertisements are developed by professional agencies to maintain the high standards of quality.

Director General, GDS organized press conferences many times for the census. He informed the press about importance of census, census dates and requested for support from public to make it a successful national event.



VIP Publicity Billboard

## Gender sensitization

Disaggregated data by sex is basis for gender sensitive policy formulation and programme planning. The need for accurate gender statistics in formulating policies and programmes can hardly be over-emphasized. A special effort was made with the assistance of UN agencies, viz., UNFPA and UN Women for accurate netting of information on women particularly on items like the head of the household, age, age at marriage, marital status, disability, literacy and economic activity particularly in unorganized sector and unpaid work.

During the publicity a special poster depicting households consisting of only women was displayed to sensitize people that a household can also have only female members and such households are also to be covered and enumerated. Posters showing economic activity of women were also designed and widely displayed.

During the training of national level trainers a special one day session by the gender specialist was organized and a gender module was included in the training programmes of the field functionaries at all levels. Enumerators, Supervisors and other field functionaries were sensitized about the concepts associated with gender and importance of unbiased gender statistics. Special role plays were included in the training programme to sensitize enumerators and supervisors about correct collection of information on gender especially the economic activity. It was observed during the Pilot census that the enumerators did not probe while canvassing the questions on economic activity. In view of this, a number of examples were included in the manual on women's work in unorganized sector and unpaid work as also a number of photographs showing working women in unorganized sector were included. The questionnaire was also carefully designed to avoid any bias on the basis of gender.

At the tabulation stage gender disaggregated statistics will be generated so that the census data can be fruitfully used for formulation of gender based plans and policies on realistic basis.



## Census call Center

A census call center was established with the assistance of three telecom companies, viz., Timor Telecom, Telcomcel and Telemor and it played a vital role in creating awareness among people about census. Different SMSs were sent at the beginning of census, in the middle and towards the end. People were informed about the census dates and requested to cooperate with the enumerators during their enumeration. The field functionaries like enumerators and supervisors were issued special instructions through the call center. The enumerators and supervisors were also instructed to contact call center in event of confusion in any concept/ question during canvassing of questionnaire or any other problem in the field. The public were also requested to contact call center towards end of census in case they were not enumerated by that time. Each complaint was promptly attended and it was ensured that the missing households are enumerated.

Services of call center were also utilized for compilation of preliminary results.



Census Call Center

## Conduct of Census

The Population Enumeration started on night of 11/12th July, 2015 and ended on 25th July, 2015. The census moment, the referral time at which population is taken was 00.00 hours on the night of 11th /12th July, 2015. The census questionnaires were administered to the head of the household or any other knowledgeable household member by the trained enumerators. Special arrangements were made to enumerate special categories of population such as homeless and institutional.

A through monitoring of progress of census enumeration was done by the Directorate General of statistics and a detailed questionnaire was developed for the monitoring of progress. Senior officers from GDS were posted as coordinators and they not only ensured timely supply of census materials at the Municipality level but also ensured good quality of work and its timely completion. The Directors posted in Municipalities also played vital role in successful completion of census.

Monitoring missions were undertaken by the Finance minister, Vice Finance minister, DG, GDS, officers and staff of GDS, Heads and senior officials of UN Agencies, ABS, Australia, BPS, Indonesia and media people.



Conduct and Monitoring of Census

## Total Population

The population of Timor-Leste as per the provisional results of 2015 census was 1,167,242 at 00.00 hours on the night of 11th/12th July, 2015. The Timor-Leste population has increased from 1,066,409 in 2010 to 1,167,242 in 2015 thereby showing an increase of 100,883 persons. The percentage population growth of 9.46 percent registered during 2010-2015 was lower than the 15.51 percent recorded during the time period of 2004-2010. . Average annual exponential growth rate of population has slowed down from 2.40 recorded during 2004-2010 to 1.81 for the period 2010-2015. The population of Timor-Leste has more than doubled in the last 35 years. In 1980 the population was 555,350 persons and it has increased to 1,167,242 in 2015. Timor Leste's population remained almost stagnant during the period 1990 to 2001 but has shown steady increase since then. The provisional population figures fall short of the projected estimate of 1,245,096 as the population projections based on 2010 census were estimated on higher fertility and mortality rates and in the recent past there appears to be large scale migration of people outside the country for higher education and employment. As per the World Population Prospects, the 2015 Revision, the estimated population of Timor-Leste in July, 2015 was 1,185,000. The annual exponential growth rate for 2015 as per population projections based on 2010 census is 2.69 and as per World Population Prospects it is 2.28 for the period 2010-2015. Both are higher than 1.81 recorded in 2015 census. The reasons for slower growth rate of population than the projected estimates will only be available when the detailed demographic data are available from Census.

The average annual increase in population has fluctuated between the periods 1980 to 2015. The average annual increase in population was 19,221 during 1980-1990 and it came down to 3,617 during the period 1990-2001. Afterwards it increased to 45,286 during 2001-2004 and declined to 23,869 during 2004-2010. During 2010-2015 the average annual increase of 20,167 persons has been recorded which is slightly lower than that recorded during 2004-2010.

The following table gives the population trend of Timor Leste during the period 1980-2015.

**Table 2 : Population trend of Timor-Leste, 1980 - 2015**

	1980	1990	2001	2004	2010	2015
Population Size	555,350	747,557	787,340	923,198	1,066,409	1,167,242
Population Change	-	192,207	39,783	135,858	143,211	100,833
Average annual increase	-	19,221	3,617	45,286	23,869	20,167
Population increase (%)	-	34.61	5.32	17.26	15.51	9.46
Average annual exponential growth rate	-	2.97	0.47	5.31	2.40	1.81

The population size of Timor Leste is presented in the following figure. It may be observed in this figure that the population of Timor Leste has shown increasing trend over the years.

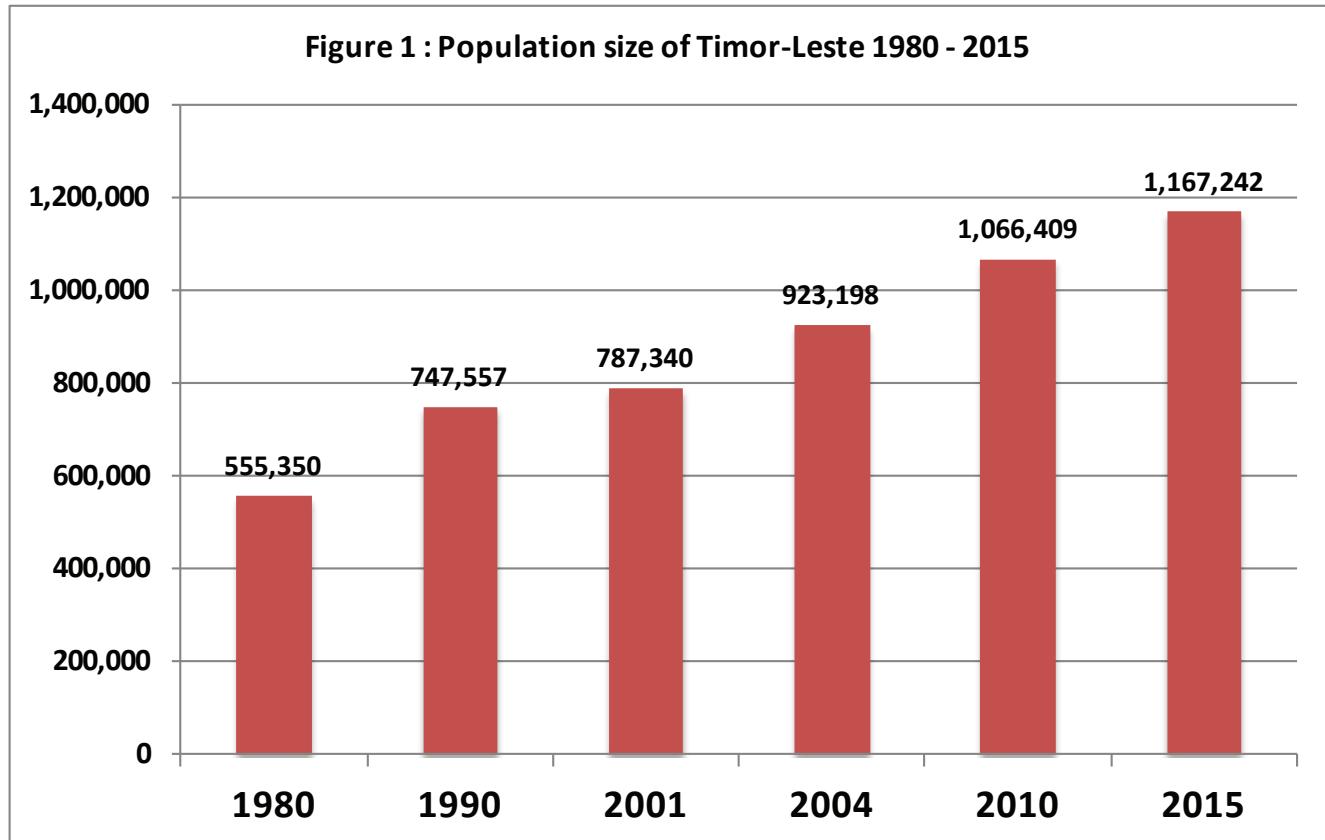


Table 3 gives comparative picture of Timor Leste with other countries in South Eastern Asia as per the World Population Prospects, Revision 2015, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations.. The population size of Timor Leste is relatively small but the growth rate is on higher side. However, the results of 2015 census show that the growth is slowing down.

**Table 3: Population, Density and Growth Rate for Countries in South Eastern Asia**

Sl No.	Region/Country	Population 2015 (in 000)	Density 2015	Annual Growth Rate 2010-2015
	South-Eastern Asia	633 490	145.9	1.2
1	Brunei Darussalam	423	80.3	1.47
2	Cambodia	15 578	88.3	1.62
3	Indonesia	257 564	142.2	1.28
4	Lao People's Democratic Republic	6 802	29.5	1.66
5	Malaysia	30 331	92.3	1.51
6	Myanmar	53 897	82.5	0.82
7	Philippines	100 699	337.7	1.58
8	Singapore	5 604	8005.3	1.97
9	Thailand	67 959	133	0.38
10	Timor-Leste( as per 2015 census)*	1167	78	1.81
11	Viet Nam	93 448	301.4	1.12

\* As per World Population Prospects the figures for Timor Leste are (i) Population 1185 thousand, Density 79.7 per sq. Km and Population Growth 2.28 for the period 2010-2015

Source : World Population Prospects: The 2015 Revision, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, United Nations

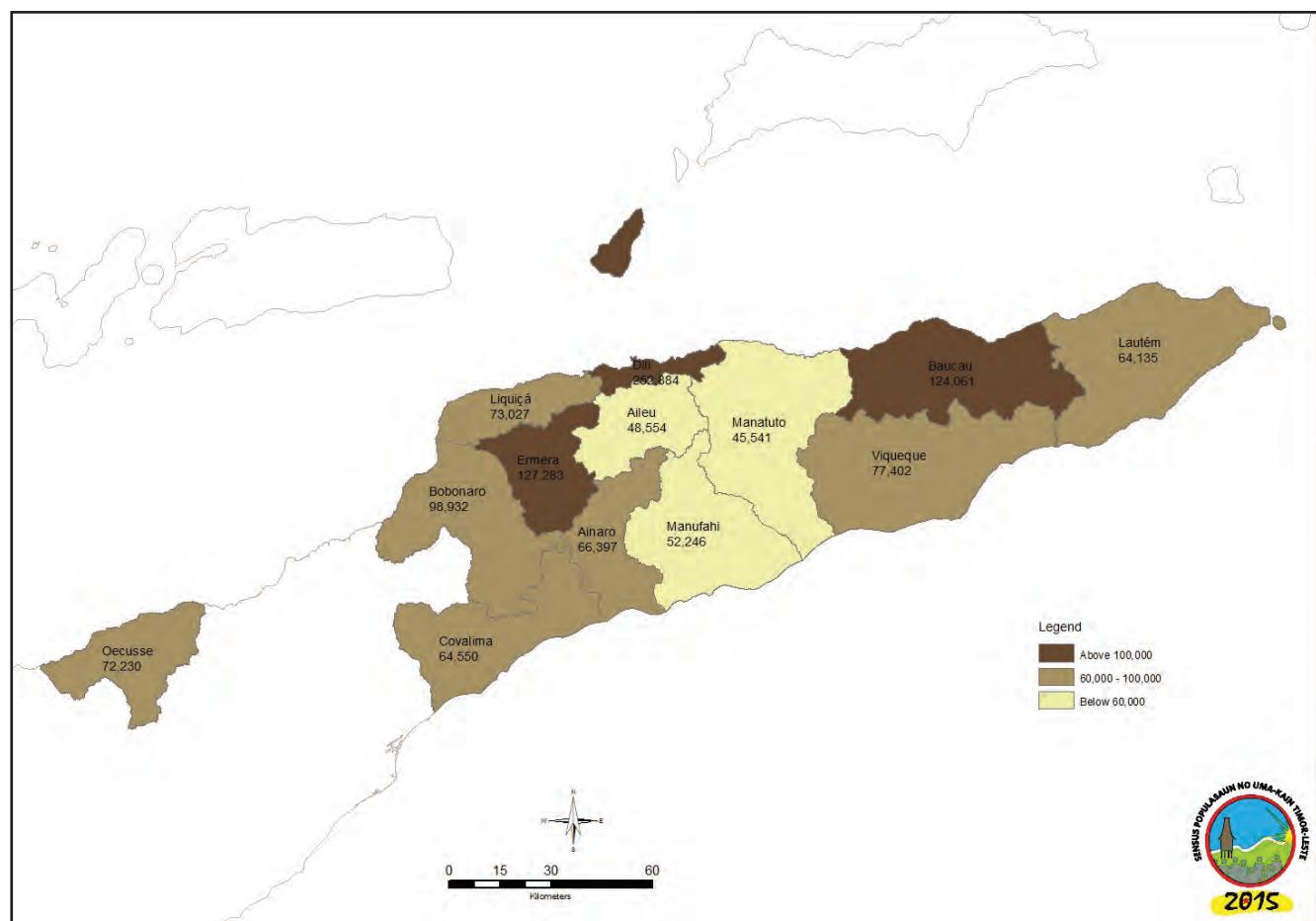
## Population and Sex composition

Table 4 presents the population and sex ratio at the Country and Municipality levels. The composition of population by gender is one of the primary demographic characteristics of human population. There are different tools to measure gender equity in a population. Sex ratio is one such widely used tool for cross sectional analysis to measure gender balance. It is defined as number of males per 100 females in the population. In 2015 census the total number of males and females enumerated was 588,561 and 578,681 respectively. The overall sex ratio has declined from 104 in 2010 to 102 in 2015. This means that there is a trend towards equal number of males and females. Generally a declining trend in sex ratio as compared to 2010 census has been noticed in all the Municipalities except Bobonaro, Liquica and Oecusse where slight increase has been recorded. More analysis will be required to make any assertive statement regarding reasons for decline in sex ratio. Dili has recorded maximum sex ratio of 106 as more males move to the capital city for higher education and in search of employment.

As expected Dili has recorded highest population of 252,884 among all the Municipalities followed by Ermera (127,283) and Baucau (124,061). Both Ermera and Bacau have retained their second and third positions respectively. Manatuto has registered minimum population of 45,541 preceded by Aileu 48,554. Both these districts had also same positions in 2010. Nine Municipalities out of total 13 have maintained same respective positions as reported in 2010. These Municipalities are Dili (1), Ermera (2), Baucau (3), Bobonaro (4), Viqueque (5), Covalima (9), Manufahi (11), Aileu (12) and Manatuto (13). Liquica and Oecusse have interchanged their positions. In 2010 census Oecusse was at serial number 6 and Liquica at 7 but in 2015 census Liquica stands at serial number 6 and Oecusse at 7. Similarly, Lautem was at serial number 8 and Ainaro at number 10 in 2010 whereas in 2015 Ainaro has come up at serial number 8 and Lautem has slipped down to position 10.

Figure 2 shows distribution of districts as per population size. The Municipalities with higher than 100,000 population are Dili, Ermera and Baucau. Bobonaro, Viqueque, Liquica, Oecusse, Ainaro, Covalima and Lautem have population figures in the range of 60,000 to 100,000. The Municipalities with less than 60,000 population are Manufahi, Aileu and Manatuto.

**Figure 2: Timor Leste's population size by Municipality, 2015**



Dili added the maximum population of 18,858 during 2010-2015 followed by Baucau (12,367) and Ermera (10,219). The other Municipalities which added significant population are Liquica (9,624), Oecusse (8,205), Viqueque (7,366) and Ainaro (7,222). Minimum population was added in Manatuto (2,799) which was closely preceded by Manufahi (3,618).

The population and sex ratio at Timor Leste and municipality levels are presented in the following table.

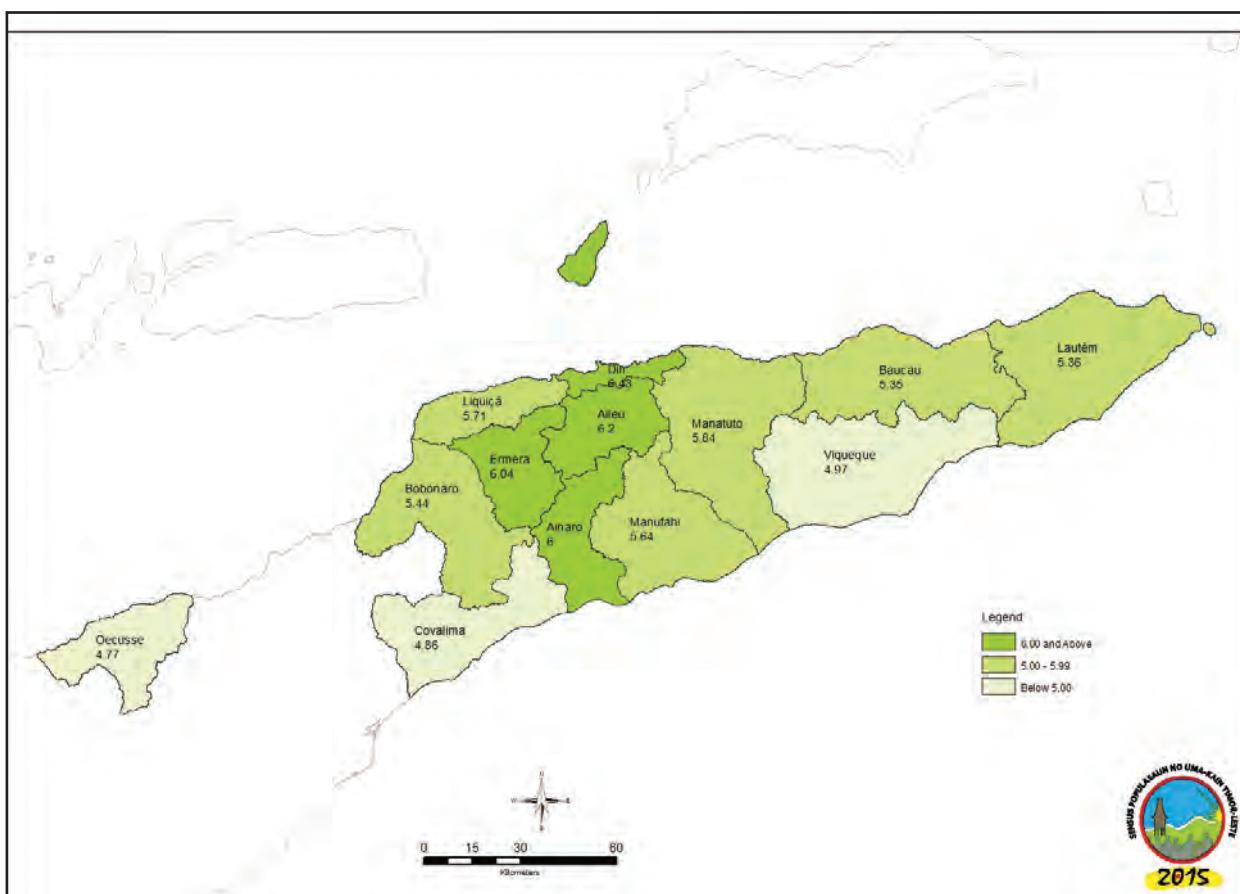
**Table 4 : Population and sex ratio**

Municipality	Population 2015			Sex Ratio	
	Male	Female	Total	2010	2015
Aileu	24,799	23,755	48,554	107	104
Ainaro	33,488	32,909	66,397	104	102
Baucau	61,706	62,355	124,061	102	99
Bobonaro	49,653	49,279	98,932	100	101
Covalima	32,021	32,529	64,550	102	98
Dili	130,271	122,613	252,884	113	106
Ermera	63,459	63,824	127,283	102	99
Lautem	31,512	32,623	64,135	97	97
Liquica	37,378	35,649	73,027	103	105
Manatuto	22,967	22,574	45,541	105	102
Manufahi	26,783	25,463	52,246	106	105
Oecusse	36,248	35,982	72,230	99	101
Viqueque	38,276	39,126	77,402	100	98
<b>Timor-Leste</b>	<b>588,561</b>	<b>578,681</b>	<b>1,167,242</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>102</b>

## Population growth and Average Household Size

Average annual exponential population growth rates and average household size are presented in Table 5. The average annual exponential growth rate gives information about the administrative units where the population is growing at faster pace and the ones where growth is at slower pace. Maximum annual growth of 2.83 percent has been recorded in Liquica closely followed by Oecusse (2.41 percent), Ainaro (2.30 percent), Baucau (2.10 percent) and Viqueque (2.00 percent). On the contrary lower speed of population growths have been registered in the Municipalities of Manatuto (1.27), Lautem (1.40 percent), Manufahi and Bobonaro (1.44 percent each). Dili has recorded annual growth rate of 1.55 percent.

**Figure 3: Timor-Leste's average household size by Municipality**



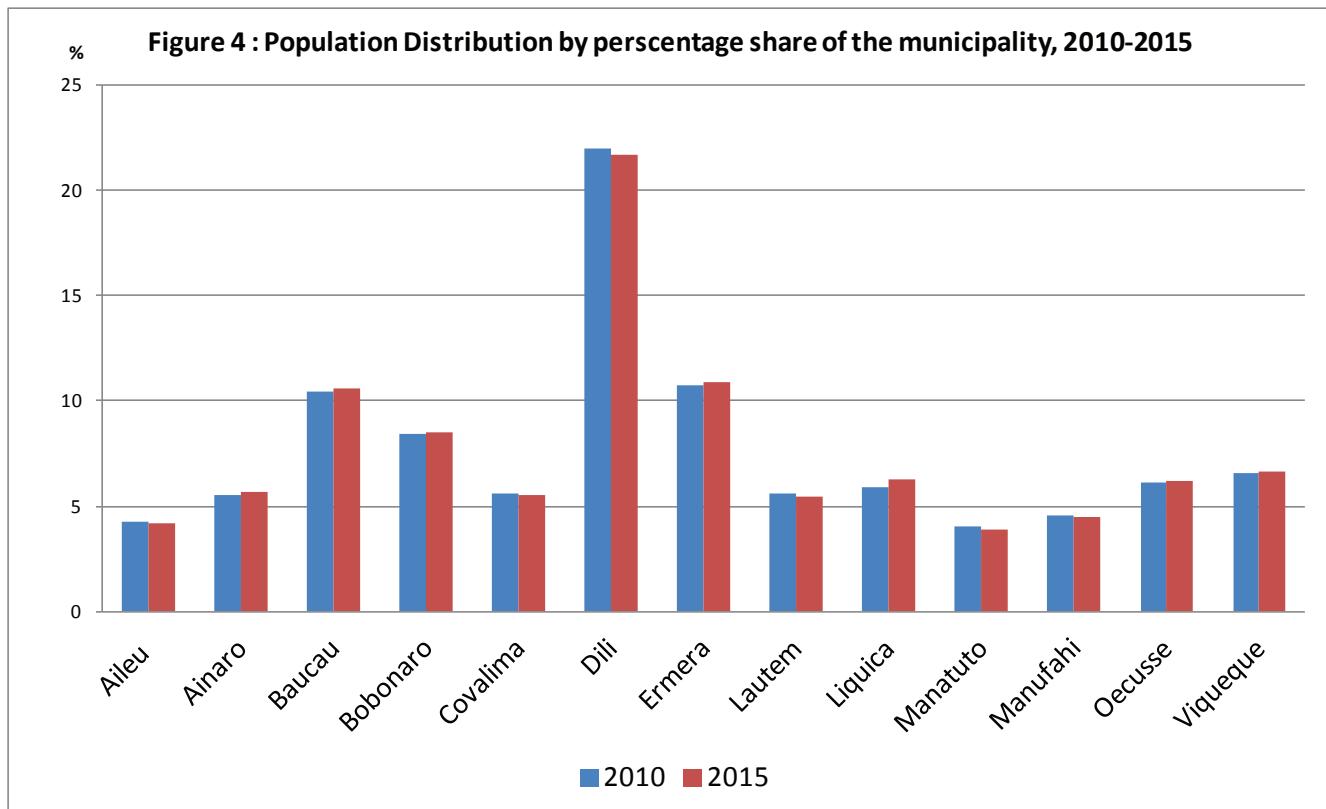
The average household size is an important indicator for planning of houses and amenities for the population as household forms the basic social unit in which people live. Household in census was defined as consisting of one or more persons who usually share their living quarters and share their principal meals. The mean household size has slightly gone down from 5.8 in 2010 to 5.7 in 2015. Total number of households enumerated in 2015 Census was 206,483. The Municipalities with household size of 6 and above are Dili (6.43), Alieu (6.20), Ermera (6.04), and Ainaro (6.00). On the contrary, the Municipalities with less than 5 household sizes are Oecusse (4.77) and Covalima (4.86) and viqueque (4.97). Remaining Municipalities have household size in the range of 5.00 to 5.99.

**Table 5: Population growth rates and average household size**

Municipality	Population		Annual Growth Rate (%)	Average Household Size	
	2010	2015		2010	2015
Aileu	44,325	48,554	1.82	6.4	6.2
Ainaro	59,175	66,397	2.30	6.1	6.0
Baucau	111,694	124,061	2.10	5.3	5.3
Bobonaro	92,049	98,932	1.44	5.5	5.4
Covalima	59,455	64,550	1.64	5.4	4.9
Dili	234,026	252,884	1.55	6.6	6.4
Ermera	117,064	127,283	1.67	6.1	6.0
Lautem	59,787	64,135	1.40	5.2	5.4
Liquica	63,403	73,027	2.83	6.1	5.7
Manatuto	42,742	45,541	1.27	6.2	5.8
Manufahi	48,628	52,246	1.44	6.2	5.6
Oecusse	64,025	72,230	2.41	4.6	4.8
Viqueque	70,036	77,402	2.00	5.1	5.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,066,409</b>	<b>1,167,242</b>	<b>1.81</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.7</b>

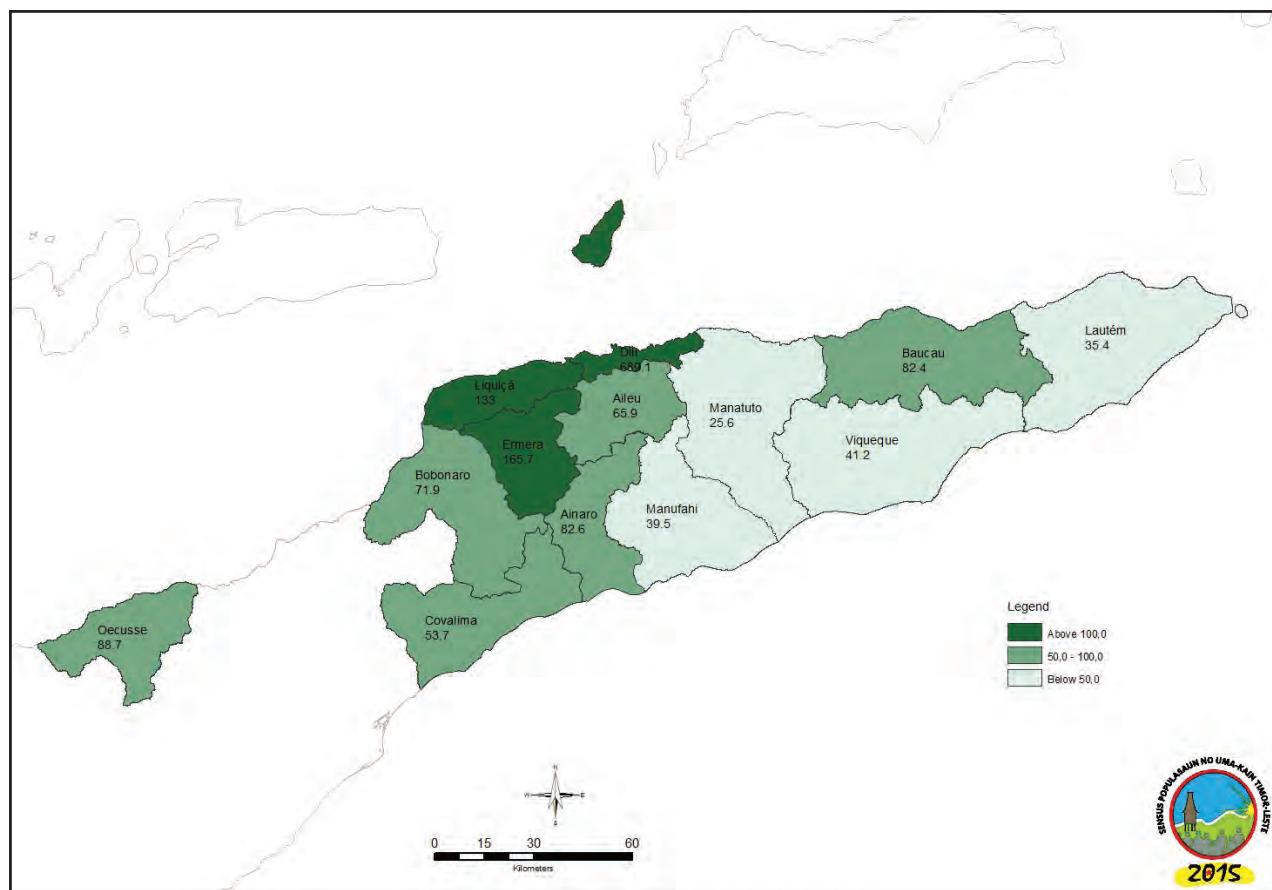
## Population Distribution and Density

The percentage of population to total population works out highest in Dili (21.67 percent) followed by Ermera (10.90) percent and Baucau (10.63 percent). Manatuto (3.90 percent) has recorded minimum percentage of population. The other two Municipalities which constitute less than five percent of the total population are Aileu (4.16 percent) and Manufahi (4.48 percent). The details about percentage of population to total population and population density for the Municipalities are given in Table-6.



Density of population is defined as the number of persons per square kilometer. It is an important index of population concentration in an area. As per preliminary results of 2015 census the population density has increased to 78 persons per square kilometer from 71 persons per square kilometer in 2010. As such on an average 7 more people inhabit every square kilometer.

**Figure 5: Timor Leste's Density by Municipality, 2015**



Most densely populated Municipalities are Dili, Ermera and Liquica. All these three Municipalities have population density of more than 100 persons per square kilometer. Dili surpasses all other Municipalities with a population density of 689 persons per square kilometer.

The Municipalities that hold moderate population concentrations (50-100) persons per square kilometer are Oecusse, Ainaro, Baucau, Bobonaro, Aileu and Covalima.

The rest of the Municipalities, Viz. Viqueque, Manufahi, Lautem and Manatuto are sparsely populated with population density of less than 50 persons per square kilometer.

**Table 6: Population, surface area and density of population 2010 and 2015**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Population</b>		<b>Percent</b>		<b>Area (sq.km)</b>	<b>Density Population</b>	
	<b>2010</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2015</b>		<b>2010</b>	<b>2015</b>
Aileu	44,325	48,554	4.16	4.16	737	60	66
Ainaro	59,175	66,397	5.55	5.69	804	74	83
Baucau	111,694	124,061	10.47	10.63	1,506	74	82
Bobonaro	92,049	98,932	8.63	8.48	1,376	67	72
Covalima	59,455	64,550	5.58	5.53	1,203	49	54
Dili	234,026	252,884	21.95	21.67	367	638	689
Ermera	117,064	127,283	10.98	10.90	768	152	166
Lautem	59,787	64,135	5.61	5.49	1,813	33	35
Liquica	63,403	73,027	5.95	6.26	549	115	133
Manatuto	42,742	45,541	4.01	3.90	1,782	24	26
Manufahi	48,628	52,246	4.56	4.48	1,323	37	39
Oecusse	64,025	72,230	6.00	6.19	814	79	89
Viqueque	70,036	77,402	6.57	6.63	1,877	37	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,066,409</b>	<b>1,167,242</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>14,919</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>78</b>

## Rural-Urban Distribution of Population

An urban area was defined as urban in 2015 census when it is the district headquarters or if the population and the social amenities are good enough to classify the area as urban. The urban-rural population in the country at Municipality level is presented in Table-7. The total population enumerated in urban areas was 328,281 in 2015 census. It constitutes 28.12 percent of the total population. The highest percentage of urban population to total population is recorded in Dili where the urban population constitutes 87.92 percent of the population. Other Municipalities with higher percentage of urban population are Lautem (19.75 percent), Oecusse (17.10 percent), and Covalima (15.28 percent). In absolute terms Baucau has second largest urban population after Dili followed by Lautem, Oecusse and Bobonaro. Aileu (5.74 percent) has minimum percentage of urban population and it is closely preceded by (Liquica 6.85 percent) and Ermera (7.00 percent).

**Table 7: Population Distribution by Sex and Urban Rural Areas for Timor Leste and Municipalities, 2015 Census**

Urban/Rural	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
<b>Urban</b>	<b>167,982</b>	<b>160,299</b>	<b>328,281</b>
Aileu	1,428	1,360	2,788
Ainaro	3,365	3,281	6,646
Baucau	8,758	8,787	17,545
Bobonaro	6,198	6,022	12,220
Covalima	4,924	4,942	9,866
Dili	114,792	107,531	222,323
Ermera	4,495	4,412	8,907
Lautém	6,221	6,444	12,665
Liquiça	2,480	2,525	5,005
Manatuto	1,896	1,796	3,692
Manufahi	3,781	3,632	7,413
Oecusse	6,209	6,143	12,352
Viqueque	3,435	3,424	6,859
<b>Rural</b>	<b>420,579</b>	<b>418,382</b>	<b>838,961</b>
Aileu	23,371	22,395	45,766
Ainaro	30,123	29,628	59,751
Baucau	52,948	53,568	106,516
Bobonaro	43,455	43,257	86,712
Covalima	27,097	27,587	54,684
Dili	15,479	15,082	30,561
Ermera	58,964	59,412	118,376
Lautém	25,291	26,179	51,470
Liquiça	34,898	33,124	68,022
Manatuto	21,071	20,778	41,849
Manufahi	23,002	21,831	44,833
Oecusse	30,039	29,839	59,878
Viqueque	34,841	35,702	70,543
<b>Timor-Leste</b>	<b>588,561</b>	<b>578,681</b>	<b>1,167,242</b>

Town level population is presented in Appendix 1. It may be seen that after Dili, Baucau, Lospalos, Pante Macassar and Maliana are other major towns although the difference in population between Dili and other towns is very large. Appendix 2 provides population distribution by sex, Municipality and Administrative Post as per 2015 Census.

## Appendices

### Appendix 1 : Population Distribution of Urban Areas by sex, 2015

Municipality	Towns in Municipality	Population		
		Male	Female	Total
Aileu	Aileu Vila	1,428	1,360	2,788
Ainaro	Ainaro + Maubisse	3,365	3,281	6,646
Baucau	Baucau	8,758	8,787	17,545
Bobonaro	Maliana	6,198	6,022	12,220
Covalima	Suai	4,924	4,942	9,866
Dili	Dili	114,792	107,531	222,323
Ermera	Gleno	4,495	4,412	8,907
Lautém	Lospalos	6,221	6,444	12,665
Liquiça	Liquiça	2,480	2,525	5,005
Manatuto	Manatuto	1,896	1,796	3,692
Manufahi	Same	3,781	3,632	7,413
Oecusse	Pante Macassar	6,209	6,143	12,352
Viqueque	Viqueque	3,435	3,424	6,859
<b>Total</b>		<b>167,982</b>	<b>160,299</b>	<b>328,281</b>

## Appendix 2 : Population Distribution by Sex, Municipality and Administrative Post according to 2015 Population and Housing Census

Municipality/ Administrative Post	Household	Population		
		Male	Female	Total
Aileu	7,832	24,799	23,755	48,554
Aileu Vila	3,703	11,919	11,218	23,137
Laulara	1,228	3,690	3,523	7,213
Lequidoe	1,178	3,894	3,740	7,634
Remexio	1,723	5,296	5,274	10,570
Ainaro	11,058	33,488	32,909	66,397
Ainaro	2,819	8,341	8,277	16,618
Hato-Udo	1,876	5,159	4,989	10,148
Hato-Builico	2,309	6,428	6,540	12,968
Maubisse	4,054	13,560	13,103	26,663
Baucau	23,195	61,706	62,355	124,061
Baguia	2,690	6,350	6,354	12,704
Baucau	8,025	24,049	23,582	47,631
Laga	3,708	9,373	9,614	18,987
Quelicai	3,708	8,360	8,835	17,195
Vemasse	1,805	4,744	4,714	9,458
Venilale	3,259	8,830	9,256	18,086
Bobonaro	18,192	49,653	49,279	98,932
Atabae	2,004	6,353	5,774	12,127
Balibo	3,104	8,333	7,968	16,301
Bobonaro	4,384	12,071	12,440	24,511
Cailaco	2,105	5,034	5,106	10,140
Lolotoe	1,678	3,460	3,621	7,081
Maliana	4,917	14,402	14,370	28,772
Covalima	13,285	32,021	32,529	64,550
Fatululic	587	988	1,051	2,039
Fatumean	639	1,649	1,717	3,366
Fohorem	853	2,023	2,165	4,188
Maucatar	1,456	3,980	3,881	7,861
Suai	4,903	13,002	13,064	26,066
Tilomar	2,396	3,720	3,666	7,386
Zumalai	2,451	6,659	6,985	13,644

Appendix 2 : continue

## Appendix 2 : Population Distribution by Sex, Municipality and Administrative Post according to 2015 Population and Housing Census

Municipality/ Administrative Post	Household	Population		
		Male	Female	Total
Dili	39,310	130,271	122,613	252,884
Atauro	1,746	4,587	4,715	9,302
Cristo Rei	8,149	30,001	28,800	58,801
Dom Aleixo	17,499	59,205	55,082	114,287
Metinaro	864	2,795	2,695	5,490
Nain Feto	6,255	17,288	16,700	33,988
Vera Cruz	4,797	16,395	14,621	31,016
Ermera	21,069	63,459	63,824	127,283
Atsabe	3,373	9,240	9,386	18,626
Ermera	5,577	17,929	18,417	36,346
Hatulia	6,250	18,811	18,830	37,641
Letefoho	3,924	11,284	11,165	22,449
Railaco	1,945	6,195	6,026	12,221
Lautém	11,969	31,512	32,623	64,135
Iliomar	1,488	3,615	3,862	7,477
Lautém	2,861	7,520	7,825	15,345
Lospalos	5,606	15,201	15,557	30,758
Luro	1,311	3,484	3,577	7,061
Tutuala	703	1,692	1,802	3,494
Liquiça	12,800	37,378	35,649	73,027
Bazartete	5,527	15,364	14,373	29,737
Liquiça	3,567	10,881	10,759	21,640
Maubara	3,706	11,133	10,517	21,650
Manatuto	7,796	22,967	22,574	45,541
Barique	942	2,882	2,556	5,438
Laclo	1,214	3,512	3,579	7,091
Laclubar	1,991	5,866	5,825	11,691
Laleia	716	1,770	1,887	3,657
Manatuto	2,446	7,284	7,109	14,393
Soibada	487	1,653	1,618	3,271

Appendix 2 : continue

**Appendix 2 : Population Distribution by Sex, Municipality and  
Administrative Post according to 2015 Population and Housing  
Census**

Municipality/ Administrative Post	Household	Population		
		Male	Female	Total
Manufahi	9,257	26,783	25,463	52,246
Alas	1,634	4,114	3,883	7,997
Fatuberlio	1,233	3,839	3,475	7,314
Same	5,282	14,817	14,440	29,257
Turiscai	1,108	4,013	3,665	7,678
Oecusse	15,131	36,248	35,982	72,230
Nitibe	2,738	6,067	6,097	12,164
Oesilo	2,520	5,691	5,730	11,421
Pante Macassar	7,899	20,345	19,900	40,245
Passabe	1,974	4,145	4,255	8,400
Viqueque	15,589	38,276	39,126	77,402
Lacluta	1,207	3,476	3,257	6,733
Ossu	3,845	8,543	9,016	17,559
Uato-Lari	3,983	9,421	9,981	19,402
Uatucarbau	1,456	3,586	3,821	7,407
Viqueque	5,098	13,250	13,051	26,301
<b>TIMOR LESTE</b>	<b>206,483</b>	<b>588,561</b>	<b>578,681</b>	<b>1,167,242</b>

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