



Government of The Gambia

**THE GAMBIA**  
**POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS - 2003**  
**THE DIRECTORY OF SETTLEMENTS**

**VOLUME 10**

December 2007



Kanifing Institutional Layout, Bethel Harding Highway, Kanifing, The Gambia  
Tel: 220-4377847 Fax: 220-4377848 E-mail: [gamcens@qanet.gm](mailto:gamcens@qanet.gm) Website: [www.csd.gm](http://www.csd.gm)

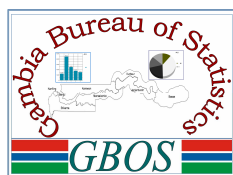
**PRICE: D300 (POSTAGE EXTRA)**



# POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS 2003

## DIRECTORY OF SETTLEMENTS

### VOLUME 10



Gambia Bureau of Statistics

Kanifing Institutional Layout, Bethel Harding Highway, Kanifing The Gambia

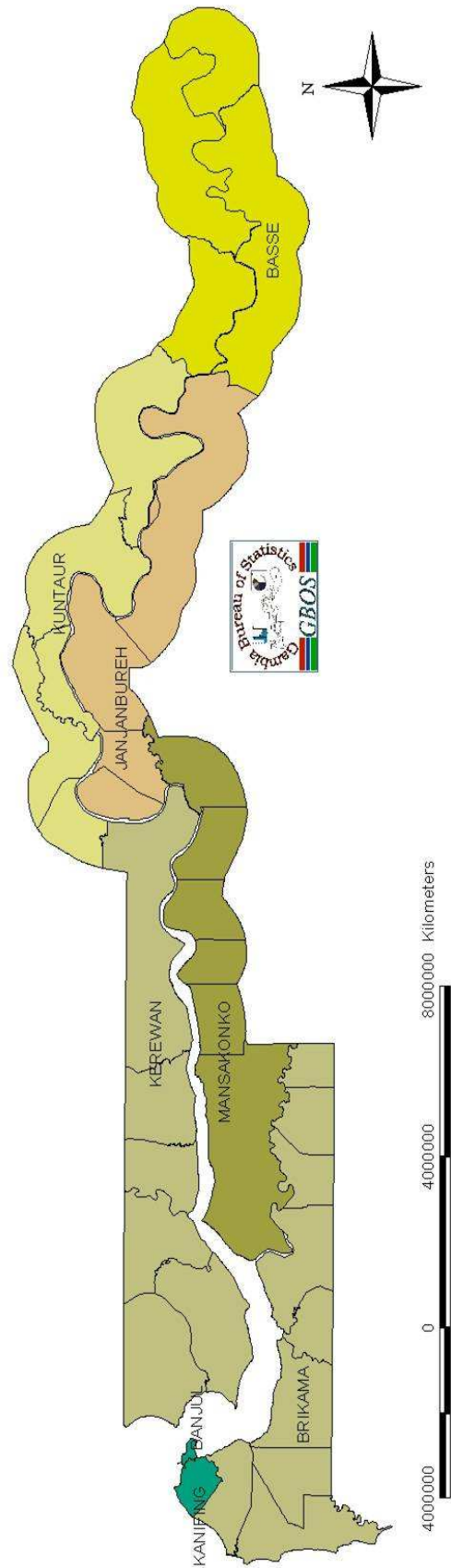
Tel: (220) 4377847

Fax: (220) 4377848

E-mail: [gamcens@qanet.gm](mailto:gamcens@qanet.gm)

Website: [www.csd.gm](http://www.csd.gm)

## MAP OF THE GAMBIA



### Preface

This volume of the 2003 Population and Housing Census gives a profile of all settlements of the Gambia as at the time of enumeration of the 2003 Population and Housing Census.

This profile of settlements is one of the most disaggregated geographic presentation of the census results. Problems encountered in the preparation of this report included; delineation of the settlements and their identification, particularly in urban agglomerations, settlements having more than one name, settlements being too small to stand alone as enumeration units and rapid changes in identification characteristics such as name of Alkalo etc.

Despite the above problems which were successfully addressed, this volume of the census is handy in that it provides the populations of listed settlements by sex, broad age brackets conducive to programming/planning purposes. The age groupings were made cognisant of the needs of sectors.

I wish to register my appreciation to Ms Lolley Kah Jallow, Ms Sainabou Jasseh and Mr. Baboucarr Daffeh for preparing this report. I thank all household heads who furnished the data to our enumerators during the census enumeration exercise. I also take this opportunity to thank all Alkalos, Chiefs and Regional Governors for their assistance in making the 2003 Population and Housing Census a success.

Mr. Alieu S. M. Ndow  
Statistician General

## **Introduction**

The definition of settlements are numerous and varied. In Gambia census taking the following criteria are used as operational definitions;

1. A spatial entity within a specified locality that is occupied by a family or families;
2. A distinct cluster of buildings/structures in a distinct locality identified by a name(s) used as a human resident;

In The Gambia settlements are spatially distributed through the length and breathe of the country at district, Local Government Area (LGA) and regional levels. Like in all other countries settlements in The Gambia sprung as a result of economic, social, political or security needs of people.

Due to cultural and political reasons settlement names vary across the country. Some settlements have more than one name as a result of the aforementioned reasons. For example in the Kuntaur LGA the word Ballangharr is a composite name of many small settlements within given geographic space and each of these settlements bear the Ballangharr as a prefix to the name of the specific locality within the given geographic space of Ballangharr. Examples of these settlements are; Ballangharr Hoi, Ballangharr Ker Nderry and Ballangharr Bentenki.

Settlements that have two distinct names are also common. For example in the Fulladu West District Boiram in also called Denton. Kerr Ousman Busso in Upper Nuimi District is also known as Kaba Koto. In this report the alternative name of a settlement is provided in brackets against the other name.

Settlements are also commonly identified by the names of their founders. For example Kerr Cherno in Upper Nuimi District has been named after the grand father of Alhagi Baba Jallow, a grand Marabout. Medina an Arabic equivalent of settlement is also a common prefix to settlements in the Sene-Gambia region. Example, Medina Serign Mass Kah, a settlement in the Lower Nuimi District was founded by the late Serign Mass Kah.

During the last three censuses (1983, 1993 and 2003) the total number of settlements in The Gambia were 1841, 1833 and 1938 settlements, respectively. The drop in the number of settlements as recorded in 1993 compared to 1983 was due to the fact that 8 small settlements were merged with neighbouring settlements for ease of enumeration. The increase from 1833 settlements in 1993 to 1938 settlements in 2003 is the combined result of creation of new settlements and the dissaggregation of some of the merged settlements bearing in mind threshold loads of enumerators.