

## **Brief Analysis of Tboung Khmum Province Final Results of General Population Census of Cambodia 2008**

### **1. Population Size, Growth, and Distribution**

#### **1.1 Population Size**

According to the final results, the population of Tboung Khmum Province at 00:00 am of March 3, 2008 stood at 754,000 persons comprising 368,333 males (48.9 %) and 385,667 females (51.1 %), accounted for 5.6 % of that of Cambodia, and was the eighth in 25 provinces. This count included an estimate for non-response in respect of some households. The final figures released are the results of detailed scrutiny, editing and validation of each and every filled-in schedule. (Refer to Table 1-1 and 1-2.)

#### **1.2 Population Distribution in Districts**

Looking at the population by district, Tboung Khmum was the largest with 180,041 persons accounting for 23.9%. Subsequently, Memot 148,463 (19.7%); Ponhea Kreak 135,318 (17.9%); Krouch Chhmar 92,845 (12.3%); and so on. Both Memot and Ponhea Kreak are border districts with Viet Nam. (Refer to Table 1-2, Graph 1, and Map 1.)

#### **1.3 Population Density**

The density of population is one of the important indices of population concentration. It is defined as the number of persons per square kilometer. The population density of Tboung Khmum Province was 153 persons per square kilometer. This is the seventh in 25 provinces. Looking at the population density by district, Krong Suong was the highest with 327 persons/km<sup>2</sup>. Subsequently, Ou Reang Ov 237; and so on. (Refer to Table 1-2, Graph 2, and Map 2.)

### **2. Sex Composition, Age Distribution, and Marital Status of the Population**

#### **2.1 Sex Composition**

The sex ratio of the total population of Tboung Khmum Province is 95.5. In other words there are more females than males in the population of this province. This is owing to heavy mortality among men during the Khmer Rouge holocaust years. However it has been showing gradual improvement since that time. (Refer to Table 2 and Graph 3.)

In Tboung Khmum province, since the volume of international migration is very few, it doesn't have any marked impact on the sex structure of the population. On the other hand, the rate of internal migration also is about a half of 26.5%, that of the whole Cambodia.

#### **2.2 Age Structure**

The proportion of children in the age group 0-4 is less than that in the age group 5-9. This could have been due to recent decline in fertility and under-reporting of infants and young children or an exaggeration of their ages. The age group 10-14 represents the largest cohort (12.7%). The age group 15-19 indicates comparatively high fertility level in the early 1990s. (Refer to Table 3-1, 3-2, Map 3, and Population Pyramid.)

Above the age of 12 the pyramid shows the usual pattern of gradually decreasing numbers with increasing age. There is, however, a conspicuous exception in the age group 30-34 which has shown a steep decline. This may be attributed to the combined effect of low fertility and high mortality of those born during the Khmer Rouge period (1976-79). The early 1970s saw escalating civil war and in the late 70s during the Khmer Rouge period a large number of killings took place. The sex and age structure beyond age 35 as revealed by the age pyramid reflects the high levels of mortality especially among men during these years of turmoil and internal strife. (Refer to Population Pyramid.)

### **2.3 Age Dependency Ratio**

The proportion of children (under 15 years old) is 34.4%, and that of aged persons (65 years old and over) is 4.8%. Both indicators are a little higher than the average of the whole Cambodia (33.7% and 4.3% respectively). While the proportion of working-age population (15-64 years old) is 62.0%.

The age dependency ratio of Tboung Khmum Province has shown 64.5% and is a little higher than 61.2%, that of the whole Cambodia. It means that this province bears heavier burden than the average of Cambodia. (Refer to Map 3 and 4.)

### **2.4 Marital Status**

In the society, majority of reproduction in Cambodia takes place only in wedlock. Marriage is an important fertility indicator for most of women in Cambodia because it marks the commencement of regular exposure to the risk of pregnancy. The marital status distribution therefore becomes important in fertility studies.

Looking at the population by marital status and sex, as to male, "Never married" was the largest with 210,848 persons accounting for 57.2%. Subsequently, "Married" 151,686 (41.2%); "Widowed" 3,219 (0.9%); "Divorced" 2,436 (0.7%); and "Separated" 144 (0.0%).

As for female, "Never married" was the largest with 190,759 persons accounting for 49.5%. Subsequently, "Married" 163,787 (42.5%); "Widowed" 21,231 (5.5%); "Divorced" 9,507 (2.5%); and "Separated" 383 (0.1%). (Refer to Table 3-1 and 3-2.)

The proportions of "Never married" among males are higher than those among females. The position is reversed in the other three marital status categories: widowed, divorced, and separated. Higher proportions of women have not remarried once they had lost their husbands or got separated. Hence the proportion of women in each of these categories is higher than that of men.

## **3. Mother Tongue and Religion**

### **3.1 Population by Mother Tongue**

The question on mother tongue was a sensitive questions in the census. It was carefully canvassed by enumerators. The census education and information campaign also emphasized that answers to census questions should be given by the respondents truthfully. It was also publicized that census individual information would be kept confidential. The percentage distribution of speakers of mother tongue shows that Khmer is the predominant mother tongue in Tboung Khmum Province.

Looking at the population by religion, Khmer was the largest with 677,618 persons accounting for 89.9%. Subsequently, all minority languages 75,895 (10.1%); Vietnamese 370 (0.0%); and so on. (Refer to Table 4-1 and 4-2.)

### **3.2 Population Distribution by Religion**

The predominant religion in Tboung Khmum province is Buddhism. The category of “Others” contains mainly a few minority religious groups from other countries.

Looking at the population by religion, Buddhism was the largest with 670,465 persons accounting for 88.9%. Subsequently, Islam 82,731 (11.0%); and so on. (Refer to Table 5-1 and 5-2.)

## **4. Literacy and Educational Attainment**

### **4.1 Background and Definitions**

In 2008, information on language in which literate was also collected for the first time. In both the censuses of 1998 and 2008, all children aged under 7 were treated as illiterate even if any child was going to a school or might have picked up reading and writing a few odd words in a language.

The general literacy rate that is the percentage of literate population to total population aged 7 and over. The general literacy rate of Tboung Khmum Province was 71.8%, that of males was 78.1 %, and that of females was 65.8 %. As compared with the whole Cambodia, these rates are all lower. For example, that of both sexes of the whole Cambodia is 78.3%. (Refer to Table 11-1, 11-2, Graph 4, and Map 7.)

### **4.2 Adult Literacy Rate**

Literate persons aged 15 and over are referred to as adult literate population. Adult literacy rate is defined as the percentage of literate persons aged 15 and over to total population aged 15 and over. The adult literacy rate of Tboung Khmum Province was 69.9%, that of males was 78.2 %, and that of females was 62.3 %. As compared with the whole Cambodia, these rates also are all lower. For example, that of both sexes of the whole Cambodia is 77.6%. (Refer to Table 11-1, 11-2, and Graph 5.)

### **4.3 Educational Level**

59.7% of the total literate population in Tboung Khmum Province has not completed the primary level of education, those who have completed the primary and lower secondary levels form 26.3% and 10.3% respectively. A small proportion of the literate population (2.9%) has acquired literacy without formal education. “Secondary School/Baccalaureate” including “Pre-secondary”, and “Post-secondary” constitute 0.6% of the literate population. “Undergraduate” and “Graduates” together form only 0.2%. The rate of “Secondary/Baccalaureate” or higher are a little lower as compared with 3.2%, that of the whole Cambodia.

In the levels from Primary (completed) to Beyond Secondary, the numbers and proportions gradually decrease and the proportions of females are always less than those of males. It is therefore clear that there is generally large scale drop outs both among males and females as they advance from grade to grade and this phenomenon is more common among females.

In the age group 15-19 normally one should have completed lower secondary level of education. Looking at the literate population, it is seen that only 18.6% has completed that level of education or higher at the age 15-19. 42.8% in this age group has completed only the primary level and 36.8% has not even completed that level.

The level of education of the population may also be viewed from the angle of educational attainment of the population aged 25 and over who should have finished their education. As regards

Beyond Secondary level, only 0.3% of the literate population aged 25 and over has ever entered the portals of any institute of higher education like Universities. In the case of females it is only 0.1%. (Refer to Table 11-1, 11-2, Graph 6, and Map 8.)

#### **4.4 School Attendance**

In modern times, people have to travel to places of their study or work and stay there for most part of the day. The distribution of population therefore changes somewhat in day time. In the 2008 Census, every full time student was asked whether he/she was attending school or educational institution in the same district where he/she was residing or in another district or at a place across the border of the country (Col. 23 of Form B Household Questionnaire Part 2). This information was collected for the first time at the 2008 Census. This data at the province level may throw more light on day time population at the different locations of schools and educational institutions.

Looking at the number of students attending school fulltime, the aged 7-12 was 83,225 and accounted for 79.2% of the population aged 7-12. In the same way, the aged 13-15 was 43,947 (73.0%), and the aged 16-18 was 20,136 (36.6%). As compared with the whole Cambodia, these rates are all lower. For example, that of the aged 7-12 of the whole Cambodia is 83.4%. In addition, there were a number of persons who were working their way through school.

Of them, 99.6% of the aged 7-12 commute to school in the same district; 99.3% for the aged 13-15; and 98.4% for the aged 16-18. Almost all students are attending school or educational institution in the same district.

Looking at the aged 15 and over, the proportion of females attending school continues to be less than the corresponding proportion for males.

In the 2008 census information was collected for the first time on children aged 5 attending school. Looking at the aged under 15, the proportion of females attending school was a little higher than the corresponding proportion for males. This is showing an interest on the part of parents to put both male and female kids in the school at that age.

In Tboung Khmum Province, there are still many villages without school. Development schemes have to be geared-up to improve the above situation. Special attention has to be paid to stop or minimize the school drop outs especially among girls at the primary level itself and improve the literacy and educational levels of women. (Refer to Table 13-1 and 13-2.)

### **5. Economic Characteristics of the Population**

#### **5.1 General Note**

The economically active population or labor force of a nation is that part of manpower which actually takes part or attempts to take part, in the production of economic goods and services. The economic and social development of a country depends on the number of persons who are economically active, the quality of their work and regularity of their job. The analysis of census statistics on economically active population enables us to know the absolute size as well as the proportion of the adult population constituting it.

Economically active population includes those who are employed and unemployed. Population not economically active refers to the following categories: homemaker, student, dependent, rent receiver, retired or other income recipient, and others who are not economically active for most of the time and who do not come under any of these four categories. Census also provides the number of persons in each of these functional categories of economically not active persons by sex and age group.

The reference period for recording the answers under main activity as employed, unemployed (employed any time before), unemployed (never employed any time before) or any of the inactive categories, was the one year or 12 months preceding the census night, that is from 4 March 2007 to 3 March 2008. Main activity is defined as the activity during 6 months (183 days) or more during the one year reference period. In other words it is activity in the major part of the one year preceding the census date.

## **5.2 Economically Active Population**

Looking at the number of economically active population, the aged 15 and over was 399,322 and accounted for 80.7% of the population aged 15 and over. In the same way, the aged 15-64 was 379,387 (82.8%), and the aged 65 and over was 19,935 (54.9%). As compared with the whole Cambodia, these rates are a little higher. For example, that of the aged 15 and over of the whole Cambodia is 78.3%. Men and women form 49.2 and 50.8 percent respectively of the economically active population aged 15 and over in Tboung Khmum Province.

On the other hand, the aged under 15 was 7,207 (2.8%). This rate is a little lower than that of Cambodia. (Refer to Table 21-1 and 21-2.)

## **5.3 Unemployment**

Looking at the number of the unemployed, the aged 15 and over was 4,916 and accounted for 1.2% of the economically active population aged 15 and over. In the same way, the aged 15-64 was 4,671 (1.2%). As compared with the whole Cambodia, these rates are fairly lower. For example, that of the aged 15 and over of the whole Cambodia is 1.6%. Men and women form 46.4 and 53.6 percent respectively of the unemployed aged 15 and over in Tboung Khmum Province. (Refer to Table 21-1 and 21-2.)

## **5.4 Employment Status**

Looking at the aged 15 and over, an analysis of the status in employment reveals that unpaid family workers and own account workers together constitute 89.4% of the employed population in Tboung Khmum Province. This indicates that most of the employed persons in Tboung Khmum Province are in the informal or the unorganized sector. This rate is fairly higher as compared with 82.5%, that of the whole Cambodia. Among male employed persons, own account workers account for 56.8%. In the case of females the highest proportion is that of unpaid family workers: 71.3%. As a general tendency, while the proportion of own account workers is declining, that of paid employees is increasing considerably.

The aged 65 and over are mostly own account workers (63.7%). (Refer to Table 22-1 and 22-2.)

## **5.5 Sectors of Employment**

Sector of employment refers to sectors like Government, private, foreign-owned etc. to which the institution or establishment of the employed person belongs. Most of the employed population aged 15 and over in Tboung Khmum Province is in local private enterprises: 96.5%. Government jobs (2.1%); jobs in state-owned enterprise (1.0%); and jobs in foreign enterprises like foreign banks etc. (0.2%). This leaves only 0.2% for all the other four sectors. (Refer to Table 23-1 and 23-2.)

## **6. Industrial Classifications**

(based on International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) Rev. 4)

Looking at the number of the employed aged 5 and over by industrial sector, “Agriculture, forestry & fishing (A)” was the largest with 346,788 persons accounting for 86.4%. Subsequently, “Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (G)” 22,455 (5.6%); “Manufacturing (C)” 7,224 (1.8%); “Transportation and storage (H)” 5,496 (1.4%); “Public administration and defense; social security (O)” 4,283 (1.1%); and so on. The rate of “Manufacturing (C)” is fairly lower as compared with 6.2%, that of the whole Cambodia. (Refer to Table 25-1 and 25-2.)

There are the three industrial sectors of employment, namely Primary (or Agriculture), Secondary (or Industry) and Tertiary (Services). The Primary Sector relates to Industrial Section A. The Secondary sector includes B to F Industrial Sections and the Tertiary Sector covers the Industrial Sectors G to U.

As a general tendency, the proportion of population in the primary sector is declining and the proportions in the Secondary and Tertiary sectors is increasing. The movement of the employed from the primary sector to the secondary or tertiary sector is one of the features commonly seen in the process of the development of a country.

Looking at the number of the employed aged 5 and over by industrial group, “Growing of non-perennial crops (011)” was the largest with 317,408 persons accounting for 79.1%. Subsequently, “Support activities to agriculture and post-harvest crop activities (016)” 15,376 (3.8%); “Growing of perennial crops (012)” 9,698 (2.4%); “Retail sale in non-specialized stores (471)” 9,097 (2.3%); “Retail sale via stalls and markets (478)” 5,420 (1.4%); “Retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco in specialized stores (472)” 3,554 (0.9%); “Other land transport (492)” 3,132 (0.8%); “Provision of services to the community as a whole (842)” 2,793 (0.7%); and so on. The rate of “Growing of perennial crops (012)” is higher as compared with 0.4%, that of the whole Cambodia. (Refer to Table 26-1 and 26-2.)

## **7. Occupational Classifications**

(based on International Standard Classification of Occupations 2008 (ISCO-08))

Looking at the number of the employed aged 5 and over by occupational major group, “Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers (6)” was the largest with 325,322 persons accounting for 81.1%. Subsequently, “Elementary occupations (9)” 28,116 (7.0%); “Service and sales workers (5)” 23,541 (5.9%); “Craft and related workers (7)” 8,845 (2.2%); “Technicians and associate professionals (3)” 4,610 (1.1%); and so on. The rate of “Technicians and associate professionals (3)” is a little lower as compared with 2.2%, that of the whole Cambodia. (Refer to Table 27-1 and 27-2.)

Looking at the number of the employed aged 5 and over by occupational minor group, “Subsistence crop farmers (631)” was the largest with 219,034 persons accounting for 54.6%. Subsequently, “Market gardeners and crop growers (611)” 102,068 (25.4%); “Agricultural, forestry and fishery laborers (921)” 21,546 (5.4%); “Protective services workers (541)” 8,565 (2.1%); “Shop salespersons (548)” 7,347 (1.8%); “Primary school and early childhood teachers (234)” 2,531 (0.6%); and so on. The rate of “Primary school and early childhood teachers (234)” is slightly lower as compared with 0.9%, that of the whole Cambodia. (Refer to Table 28.)