



Malawi Government

2018 Malawi Population and Housing

# Census

Spatial Distribution of Population  
including Urbanization Report

National Statistical Office  
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## **FOREWORD**



Following the successful implementation of the 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census (PHC) and subsequent production of both preliminary and main reports, Malawi Government through the National Statistical Office (NSO) has produced 17 thematic reports. The reports have profiled demographic, social and economic sectors of the country. This effort is in line with the United Nations (UN) international standards of releasing main census results, and thematic reports thereafter to present findings across all sectors that were captured during the census. I am contented, therefore, to note that Malawi Government has fulfilled this requirement by producing thematic reports to inform various government ministries to guide development efforts in the country.

The 17 thematic reports form a primary source of socio-economic and demographic data at various levels and provide the country with important information to foster national development, good governance and decentralization. The results presented in this thematic report will form a solid basis against which the successes and challenges in the implementation of the third Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be monitored and evaluated. As government started implementing its MGDS III in 2017, it is imperative to have clear indicators under each sector that shall be meaningfully assessed around 2022, the end of the MGDS III. I am delighted to note that the thematic reports serve that purpose and will help guide our national development plan.

I am fully aware that for the government to produce this high quality report there was a dedicated team of experts from NSO and other sectors. I would, therefore, like to appreciate the effort of the Commissioner of Statistics, NSO staff and experts from other institutions for producing this report. I would also like to appreciate the support received from development partners and individuals during the whole process of writing the thematic report. Specifically, I wish to thank the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for providing financial support and coordinating all development partners' support. I wish to also thank British Department for International Development (DFID), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Norwegian Government, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) from the German Government, the Irish Aid from the Irish Government, Iceland Government, the Peoples' Republic of China, the UN Family and the Standard Bank Malawi for providing financial and material resources for the 2018 PHC from which this report is derived. I would also like to thank US Census Bureau and Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) for providing technical support.

**Cliff Chiunda**

**Secretary to the Treasury**

## **PREFACE**



The Malawi Government through the National Statistical Office (NSO) conducted its sixth Population and Housing Census (PHC) in September 2018. The 2018 PHC was the first one to be conducted using Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) technology. Data was collected and captured on tablets and transmitted to NSO server electronically via internet. The process proved to be efficient as it reduced time for data processing and cleaning since these processes were mostly done at data capturing stage. The preliminary and main reports were produced in a record time of 3 and 7 months, respectively.

The National Statistical Office has done further analysis of the census data to produce 17 Thematic Reports aimed at enhancing the understanding of the Malawi population. This Thematic Report on Spatial Distribution of Population including Urbanization is one of them, others being: Assessment of Age Sex Data Quality; Fertility and Nuptiality; Mortality; Economic Characteristics of the Population; Migration; Water and Sanitation; Households and Living Conditions; Children and Youth; Gender; Characteristics of Older Persons; Disability; Education; Social Atlas; Population Projections; Implementation and Methodology and the Master Sampling Frame. The Thematic Reports were written by officers from NSO, lecturers from the University of Malawi, subject matter specialists from different Ministries, Civil Society and the UN Family with technical support from US Census Bureau.

I would like to acknowledge the support NSO received from the Government, Development Partners, the Private Sector and individuals for the census including the production of 17 thematic reports. Specifically, I wish to thank UNFPA for providing funding and coordinating support from all Development Partners. I also wish to thank DFID, USAID, the Norwegian Government, GIZ, the Irish Aid, Iceland Government, the Peoples' Republic of China, the UN Family and the Standard Bank Malawi for providing financial resources for the 2018 PHC.

I am heavily indebted to all NSO staff, Census Zone Managers, Census District Supervisors, Control Centre Supervisors, Field Supervisors and Enumerators for their dedication and hard work during the 2018 PHC. Special thanks are extended to US Census Bureau and Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) for the technical assistance they rendered. I would also like to thank community leaders for mobilizing their members to be counted, and members of the general public for their willingness to participate in the 2018 PHC.

**Mercy Kanyuka (Mrs.)  
Commissioner of Statistics**

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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

CAPI	Computer Assisted Personal Interviews
CSO	Civil Society Organization
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
MGDS	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NPDP	National Physical Development Plan
NSO	National Statistical Office
PHC	Population and Housing Census
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TA	Traditional Authority
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund

# 1 SOURCES AND QUALITY OF DATA

## 1.1 Introduction

For decades, Malawi has and still relies on the Population and Housing Censuses (PHC) as a major source of data for planning, monitoring and evaluation of its national and international development initiatives such as the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III (MGDS III) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The census data also facilitates intra and international comparisons of indicators over time and space. Other sources of vital statistics include; surveys, administrative records and civil registrations.

## 1.2 Population and Housing Censuses

### 1.2.1 History of censuses in Malawi

Malawi has conducted censuses both prior to independence and after attaining independence in 1964. The first census was conducted in 1891 when Malawi was a British Protectorate. This was not a complete census because the population count completely excluded Africans and excluded the whole of the Northern region and a large part of the Central region. The second population census was conducted in 1901. Unlike the first census, the second census attempted to count Africans and other races. However, there is very little information regarding these first two censuses. In 1911 an estimate of the entire population was achieved following the inclusion of the Northern Ngoni into the Nyasaland protectorate. Subsequently, other pre-independence censuses followed in 1921, 1926, 1931, and 1945. Censuses conducted between 1921 and 1931 were for people who permanently resided in an area and this was *de jure* in principle. The 1945 census enumerated those present at home on the night of the census making it a *de facto* census.

The first census that included extensive training of enumerators and complete demarcation of enumeration areas was carried out in 1966 after independence. Other subsequent censuses which were all *de facto* followed in 1977, 1987 and 1998. The 2008 and 2018 PHC were both *de jure* and *de facto*. Unlike the previous censuses which used a paper-based questionnaire, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census used Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) for collecting data from households. The technology significantly reduced the data capture and analysis period compared to previous censuses.

### 1.2.2 The 2018 Population and Housing Census

The 2018 Population and Housing Census is the sixth in the post-independence period and is part of the United Nations 2020 World Round of Censuses. The 2018 PHC enumeration was conducted for three weeks, from 3rd to 23rd September, 2018. Enumerators were deployed to cover the entire country and administered the questionnaire to the household head or any knowledgeable member in regular households. Data was also collected from individuals in institutions and homeless individuals, including street kids.

The 2018 PHC collected census attributes such as sex, age, place of birth and residence, parental survivorship, education and literacy status, employment status and industry, marital status, children ever born and children surviving, household amenities and assets, housing conditions, business ownership, disability, deaths, emigrants and albinism.

### **1.2.3 Quality of Census Data**

Quality is one of the most important aspects of data as it enhances credibility and increases its potential use. Credible data is vital for effective planning, policy formulation and decision making. A population and housing census is a huge undertaking that requires proper planning and implementation to ensure that the data collected is of high quality and reliable. According to the UN Principles and Recommendations for conducting a Population and Housing Census, a good PHC must have essential features which include: individual enumeration, universality within a defined territory, simultaneity, defined periodicity and small area statistics. NSO made sure that all these attributes of a good PHC are adhered to. These attributes give rise to two distinct properties of a census namely, content and coverage errors. Coverage errors arise from omissions or duplication of the population while content errors are deficiencies in the data arising from incorrect reporting by respondent or incorrect recording and tabulation by the census team. Great effort was taken to get rid of coverage and content errors.

In planning for the 2018 PHC, lessons from previous censuses were considered. Efforts were made and strategies were instituted to collect high quality data and reduce errors arising from the use of poor maps, untested methodologies and instruments, inadequate supervision, poor training, inadequate support from general public and inadequacies in data processing. The National Statistical Office (NSO) took the following steps to ensure quality data was collected:

Updating the administrative units and demarcating the country into enumeration areas to ensure complete coverage thus avoiding omissions or double counting during the enumeration exercise using Geographic Information System (GIS) and satellite imagery. This was the first time Malawi used satellite maps in the census enumeration.

Developing census questionnaires through a consultative process with government ministries and departments, the private sector, university and research institutions, supporting partners and the general public.

Preparing comprehensive supervisors' and enumerators' instruction manuals for guidance during the census training and enumeration.

Pre-testing the questionnaire to correct any deficiencies.

Piloting the census as a rehearsal of the main census.

Providing adequate training of field staff at all levels of operations.

Intensive supervision at all levels: one Field supervisor to five Enumerators, one Control Centre Supervisor to 8 Field Supervisors, 2 District Supervisors per census district, 12 Census Zone Supervisors and 1 National Supervisor.

Providing a comprehensive census advocacy using all channels such as media (print electronic and social), faith based organizations, community leaders and face to face publicity.

Real time monitoring of census progress using a dashboard, checking and verifying completeness of coverage once the enumeration area was completed.

## 2 SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

### 2.1 Introduction

One of the major outputs of the population and housing census is information on the spatial distribution of the population in a country.

#### **Definitions**

**Spatial population distribution:** Refers to the way people are spread over geographic space.

**Boma:** A district management area comprising of a district headquarters and its immediate urban population.

**District:** Administrative boundary of the region whose affairs are controlled by the district council.

**Traditional Authority/Sub Traditional Authority:** Sub-division of a district ruled by a chief.

**Village:** A smallest administration unit usually comprise of households and people who are related to each other and it is ruled by a traditional village headman/woman.

**Ward:** Subdivision of a city, municipal and town council usually represented by a counselor.

This chapter presents the size, growth rate, and spatial distribution of population in Malawi at national, regional, district and sub districts levels using the 2018 PHC data.

### 2.2 Population Size

The 2018 PHC enumerated 17,563,749 persons. Northern region had 2,289,780 persons while Central and Southern Regions had 7,523,340 and 7,750,629 persons, respectively. The population grew by 4,486,589 persons, representing 34.3 percent increase from 2008. In terms of sex, 9,042,289 persons (51.5 percent) were females and 8,521,460 persons (48.5 percent) were males.

The population in rural areas was 14,747,257 persons and urban areas was 2,816,492 persons, representing 83.9 percent and 16.1 percent respectively.

### 2.3 Population Growth Rate

The population of Malawi in 2018 is now 4 times the population of 1966, the first census after independence. The period 2008-2018 recorded a 2.9 percent average annual growth rate. The

highest increase between censuses since 1966 was 3.7 percent average annual growth rate between 1977 and 1987. The lowest average annual intercensal growth rate observed was 2.0 percent which was experienced between 1987 and 1998 (Table 2.1).

**Table 2.1: Total population and intercensal growth rates, Malawi (1966-2018)**

Census Year	Population Size	Average Annual Growth Rate (Intercensal)
1966	4,039,583	----
1977	5,547,460	2.9
1987	7,988,507	3.7
1998	9,933,868	2.0
2008	13,077,160	2.8
2018	17,563,749	2.9

*Source: 1966,1977,1987, 1998, 2008, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

### 2.3.1 Population Growth Rate by Region

Central region had the highest intercensal growth rate of 3.1 percent followed by Northern region with 2.9 percent whilst Southern region had 2.8 percent growth rate (Table 2.2).

**Table 2.2: Population Growth Rate by Region, Malawi 2008 and 2018**

Regions	Total Population		Intercensal Growth Rate	Intercensal increase	
	2008	2018	2008 – 2018	Number	Percent
<b>Malawi</b>	<b>13,077,160</b>	<b>17,563,749</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>4,486,589</b>	<b>34.3</b>
Northern	1,708,930	2,289,780	2.9	610,289	34.0
Central	5,510,195	7,523,340	3.1	2,026,088	36.5
Southern	5,858,035	7,750,629	2.8	1,897,874	32.3

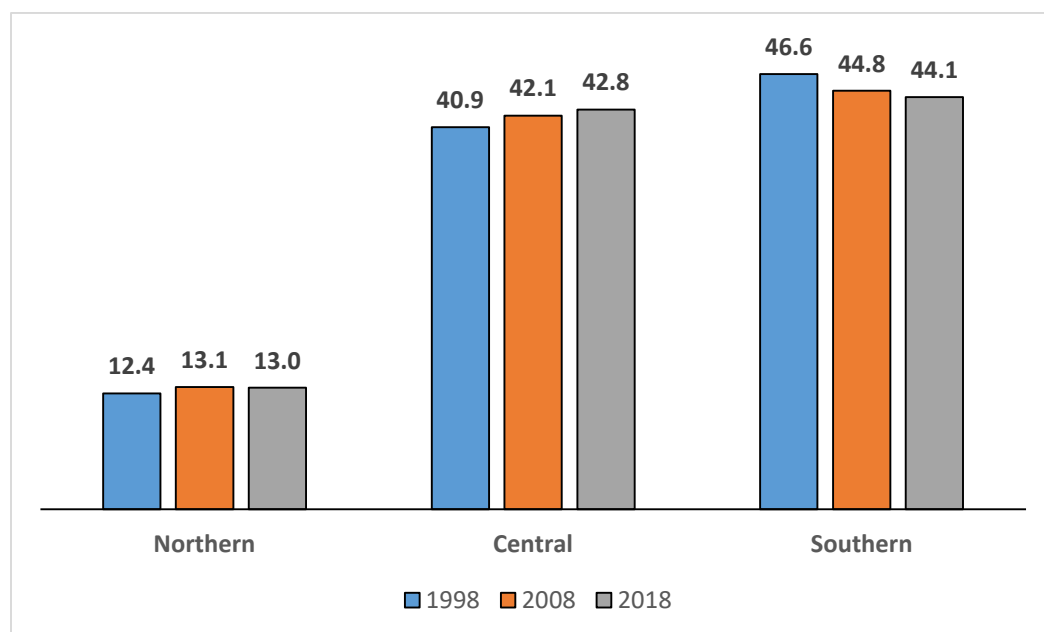
*Source: 2008, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

### 2.3.2 Population Distribution by Region

The Southern region had more percentage share followed by the Central region and lastly the Northern region. While the overall trend remained unchanged, the Southern region population distribution share declined from 46.6 percent in 1998 to 44.1 percent in 2018. In contrast, the Central region population share increased from 40.9 percent in 1998 to 42.8 percent in 2018. Northern region was the least populated region which had 12.4 percent share in 1998 and 13

percent in 2018. The overall pattern of distribution of the population among regions has remained similar in the past three censuses (Figure 2.1).

**Figure 2.1: Population distribution by region, Malawi 1998, 2008 and 2018**

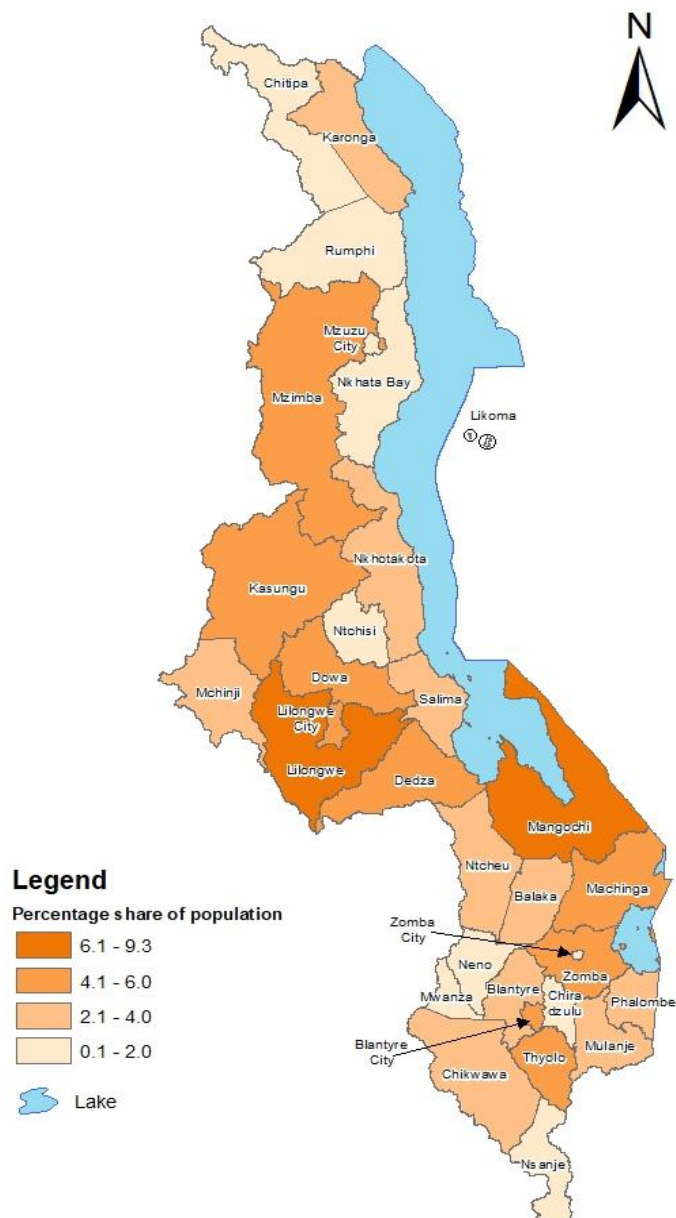


*Source: 1998, 2008, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

### 2.3.3 Population Distribution by District

The Population of Lilongwe rural was 9.3 percent of the total population (a decline of 0.1 percent from 2008) followed by Mangochi with 6.5 percent (an increase of 0.4 percent from 2008). Likoma, Zomba city, Mwanza and Neno had each less than 1 percent share of the total population (Annex 1A and Figure 2.2).

**Figure 2.2: Population distribution by district, Malawi 2018**



*Source: 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

Lilongwe city had the largest increase in percentage share of 0.5 percent, followed by Mangochi and Machinga districts with 0.4 percent each between 2008 and 2018. The percentage of highest population decline was in Blantyre city with 0.5 percent and Thyolo district with 0.4 percent (Annex 1B).

### 2.3.4 Five Most Populous Districts in Malawi

Lilongwe rural remained the most populous district with 1,637,583 people followed by Mangochi with 1,148,611 people in 2018. Lilongwe city population size was ranked at number 4 in 2008 but marginally overtook Mzimba district in 2018 (Table 2.3).

**Table 2.3: Five most populous districts in Malawi, Malawi 2008 and 2018**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Districts</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Rank</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>2008</b>		<b>2018</b>	<b>2018</b>
1	1,230,834	Lilongwe	1,637,583	1
2	797,061	Mangochi	1,148,611	2
4	674,448	Lilongwe city	989,318	3
3	727,931	Mzimba	940,184	4
7	627,467	Kasungu	842,953	5

*Source: 2008, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

### 2.3.5 Five Least Populous Districts in Malawi

The ranking of five least populated districts did not show any pattern of change over the last two censuses with Likoma being the least populated with 14,527 persons followed by Zomba city with 105, 013 persons in 2018 Census. (Table 2.4).

**Table 2.4: Five least populous districts, Malawi 2008 and 2018**

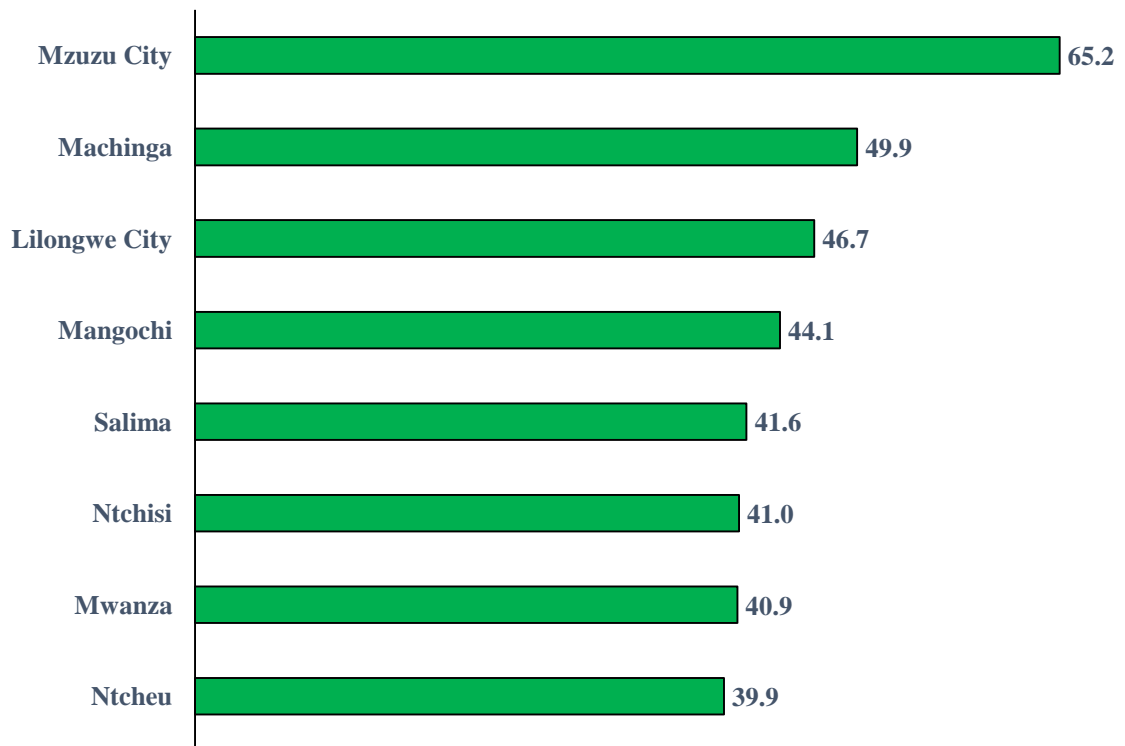
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Districts</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Rank</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>2008</b>		<b>2018</b>	<b>2018</b>
1	10,414	Likoma	14,527	1
2	88,314	Zomba city	105,013	2
3	92,947	Mwanza	130,949	3
4	107,317	Neno	138,291	4
5	133,968	Mzuzu city	221,272	5

*Source: 2008, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

### 2.3.6 Top 10 Most Grown Districts (Percentage Increase)

Regarding intercensal population increase, Mzuzu city recorded the highest (73.0 percent) followed by Machinga (49.9 percent), Lilongwe city at 46.7 percent and Mangochi at 44.1 percent (Figure 2.3).

**Figure 2.3: Top 10 most grown districts (percentage increase) between 2008 and 2018**



*Source: 2008, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

### 3 POPULATION DENSITY

#### 3.1 Introduction

Population density is an important measure of spatial distribution of a population in a country. It is important to understand population densities because they provide information that is critical for making informed decisions by the government and other stakeholders in planning and managing of infrastructure and social services to various parts of a country.

This section presents trends and patterns of population densities at national, regional and district levels in Malawi from 1966 to 2018.

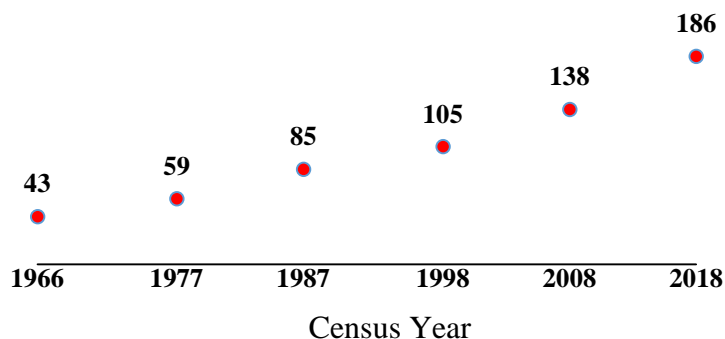
#### Definition

**Population Density:** A measurement of the number of people living per unit area of land. It is calculated by dividing the total number of people by the total land area. It is popularly represented as population per square kilometer. It represents how sparsely or crowded (densely) populated the area is.

#### 3.2 Population Density of Malawi (1966-2018)

The overall population density for Malawi in 2018 was 186 persons per square kilometer, an increase from 43 persons per square kilometer in 1966. The highest absolute increase in population density was observed between 2008 and 2018 (Figure 3.1).

**Figure 3.1: Changes in population density, Malawi 1966-2018**

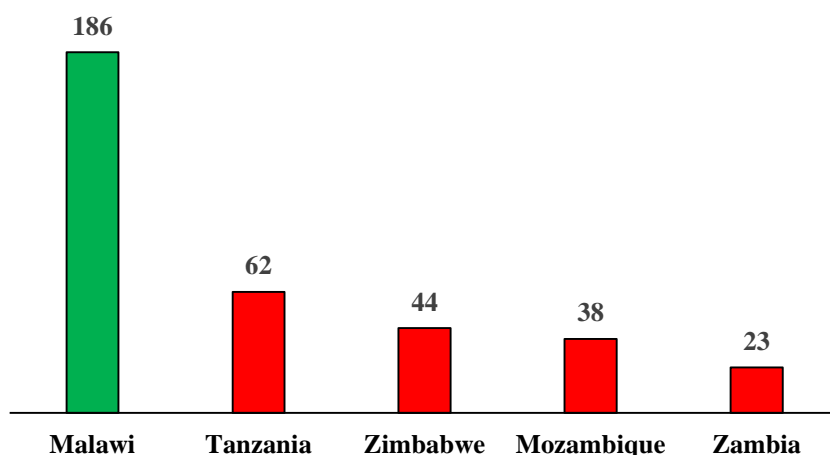


*Source: 1966, 1977, 1987, 1998, 2008, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

### 3.3 Population Densities for Malawi and Neighboring Countries

The national population density of Malawi as of 2018 was much higher than that of the neighboring countries. This is mainly on account of massive land sizes of the neighboring countries compared to Malawi. While the population density for Malawi is 186 persons per square kilometer, the density for Tanzania is 62, Zimbabwe 44, Mozambique 38 and Zambia 23 persons per square kilometer (Figure 3.2).

**Figure 3.2: Population densities for Malawi and neighbouring countries**



*Source: 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census; World Population Prospects, 2019*

### 3.4 Regional Population Densities (1998-2018)

Although the Central region has the largest share 37.7 percent of the country's total land area and the Northern regions has the smallest share of 28.7 per cent, however it was the Southern region which had the highest density of 244 persons per square kilometer while the Northern region had the least population density of 84 persons per square kilometer. The population density between 2008 and 2018 for the Northern region increased by 16 persons per square kilometer far below the national average increase of 48 persons per square kilometer during the same period. Central region and Southern region population densities increased by 74 and 60 persons per square kilometer respectively (Table 3.1).

**Table 3.1: Changes in population density by region, Malawi 2008-2018**

Regions	Land Area (Sq.km)	Population		Population Density	
		2008	2018	2008	2018
<b>Malawi</b>	<b>94,552</b>	<b>13,077,160</b>	<b>17,563,749</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>186</b>
Northern region	27,131	1,708,930	2,289,780	48	84
Central region	35,641	5,510,195	7,523,340	203	211
Southern region	31,780	5,858,035	7,750,629	184	244

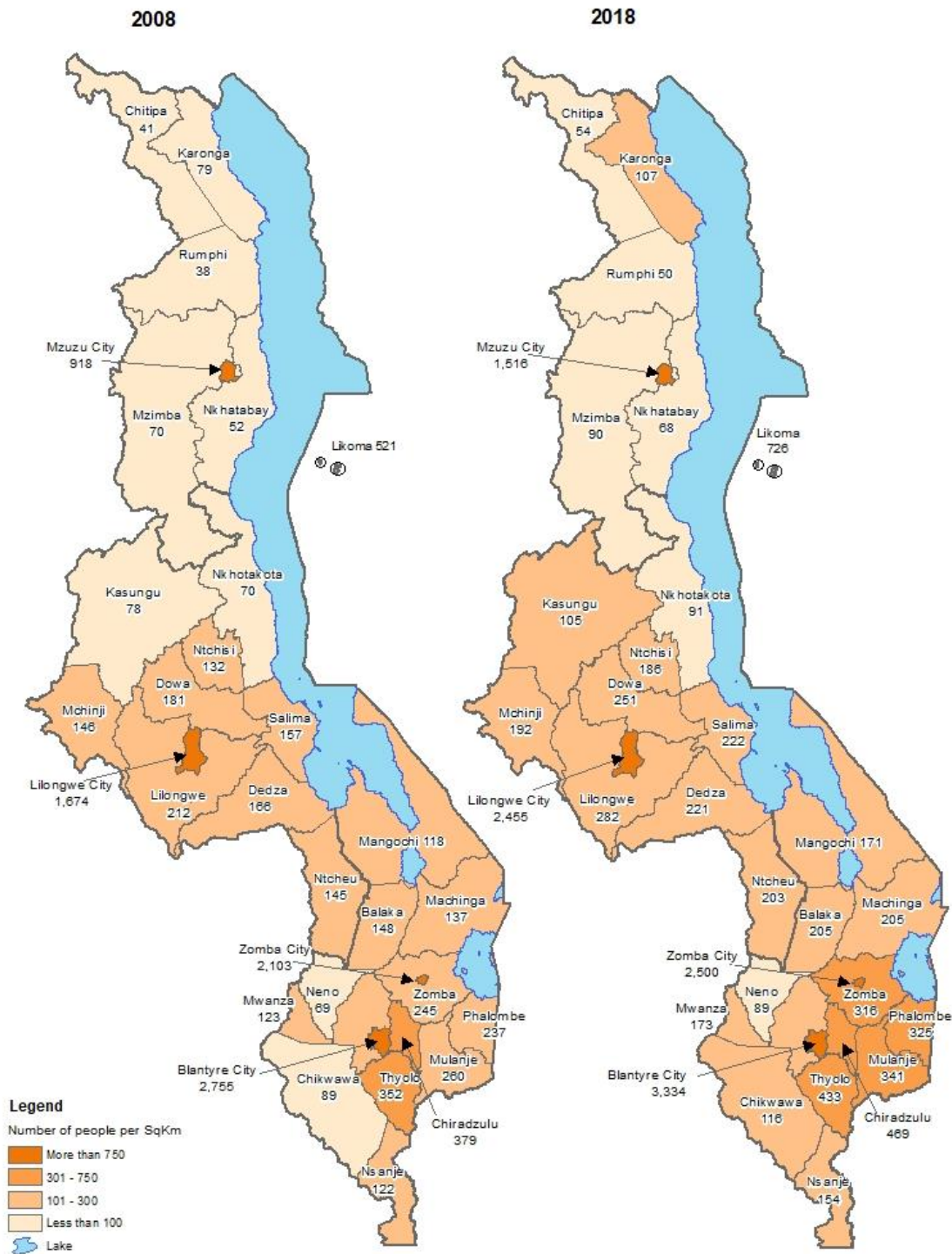
*Source: 2008, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

### 3.5 District Population Density

Four main cities in Malawi were ranked as the most densely populated districts in 2018 with Blantyre city having the highest population density of 3,334 persons per square Kilometer, followed by Zomba city 2,500, Lilongwe city 2,455 and Mzuzu city 1,516 persons per square kilometer.

Although Likoma had a least percentage share of national population, it was the district with highest population density of 726 persons per square kilometer followed by Chiradzulu and Thyolo with 469 and 433 persons per square kilometer respectively. Rumphu district recorded the lowest population density of 50 persons per square kilometer followed by Chitipa with 54. Despite being a fourth most populous district in Malawi, Mzimba recorded a low density of 90 persons per square kilometer. This is mainly due to its large size of land area (Figure 3.3).

**Figure 3.3: Population density by district, Malawi 2008 and 2018**



Source: 2008, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census

## 4 URBANISATION

### 4.1 Introduction

Another important measure of spatial distribution of the population is urbanization. Census data provide useful information for analyzing urbanization processes and trends as well as socio-economic characteristics of the urban population.

#### Definitions

**Urbanization:** Refers to the increasing proportion of the total population of a country being accommodated in urban areas (United Nations Population Division, 2014).

**Urban Centre:** The definition of an urban center differs among countries. According to 2018 Population and Housing Census urban centers in Malawi refer to four major cities Blantyre, Lilongwe, Mzuzu, and Zomba, town councils and bomas and other gazetted town planning areas.

**Percentage of urban population:** Refers to proportion of the urban population to the total population. It shows the level of urbanization. It is calculated as;

$$PU = \frac{U}{P} \times 100$$

Where

PU = percentage of urban population.

U = urban population

P = Total population

**Tempo of urbanization:** Refers to the speed of urbanization in a country. The simplest measure of tempo of urbanization is average annual exponential rate at which the urban population is growing over a given period. It is calculated as

$$R = \left[ \left\{ \frac{P_{t+n}}{P_t} \right\}^{1/n} - 1 \right] * 100$$

Where: **R** = average annual growth rate of the urban Population

**P<sub>t</sub>** = urban population from the previous census

**P<sub>t+n</sub>** = urban population from the current census

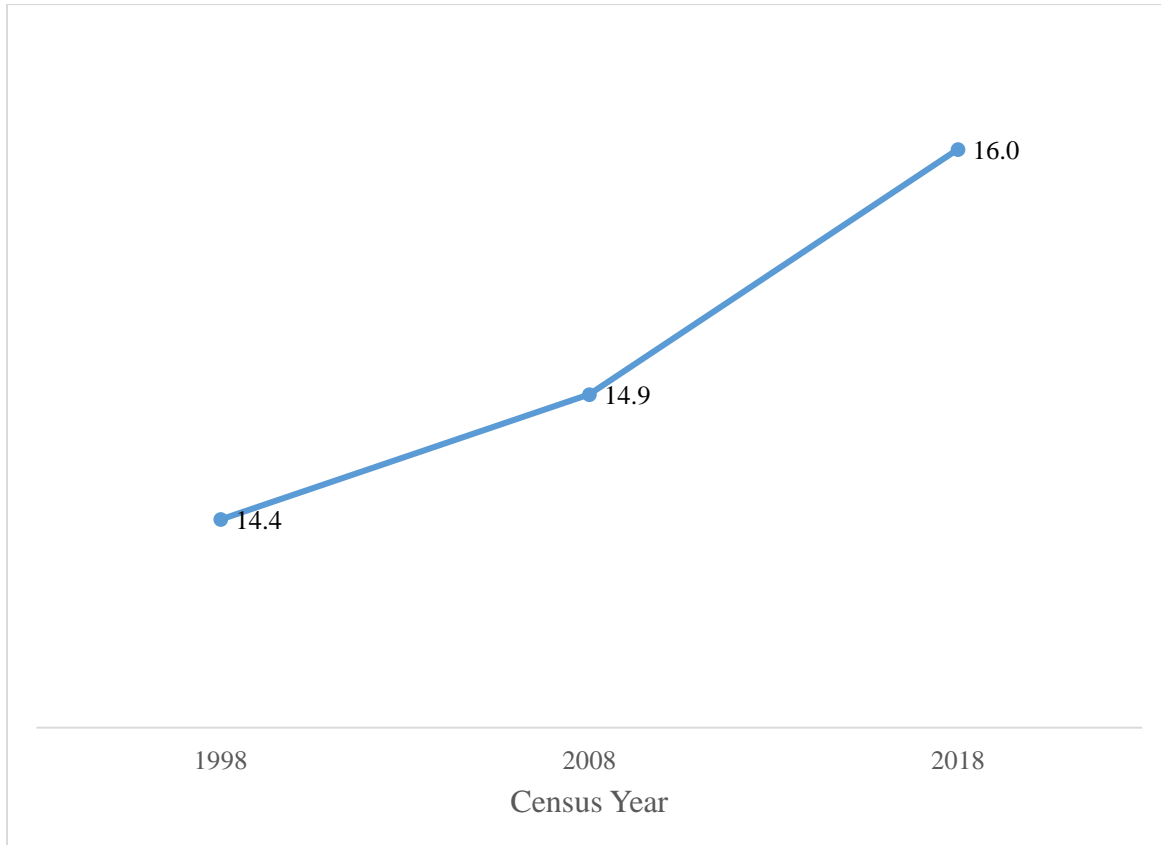
**n** = time interval (expressed in years) between the current census and the previous census

This chapter analyses the trends of percentage of urban population, tempo of urbanization, urban rural ratios and population sizes of urban centers in Malawi.

## 4.2 Urbanization Trends, Patterns and Processes

The urban population size of Malawi has increased from 2.0 million people in 2008 to 2.8 million people in 2018. Correspondingly, the rural population of the country has risen from about 11.0 million to 14.8 million. The percentage of urban population which is one of the measures of urbanization, had increased from 14.4 percent in 1998 to 16.0 percent in 2018 (Figure 4.1).

**Figure 4.1: Percentage of Population in Urban Areas. Malawi 1998-2018**

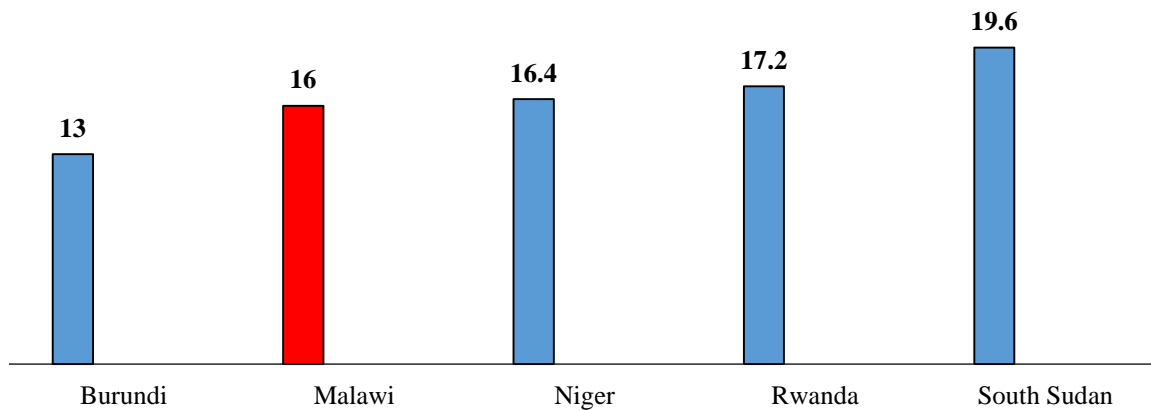


*Source: 1998, 2008, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

#### 4.2.1 Urban Population in Malawi Compared with other Sub-Saharan African Countries

Malawi still remained one of the least urbanized countries in the world after Burundi in 2018 (Figure 4.2). The other least urbanized countries in Sub-Saharan Africa include Niger, Rwanda and South Sudan

**Figure 4.2: Percentage of Urban Population in Malawi Compared with other Sub-Saharan African Least Urbanised Countries**

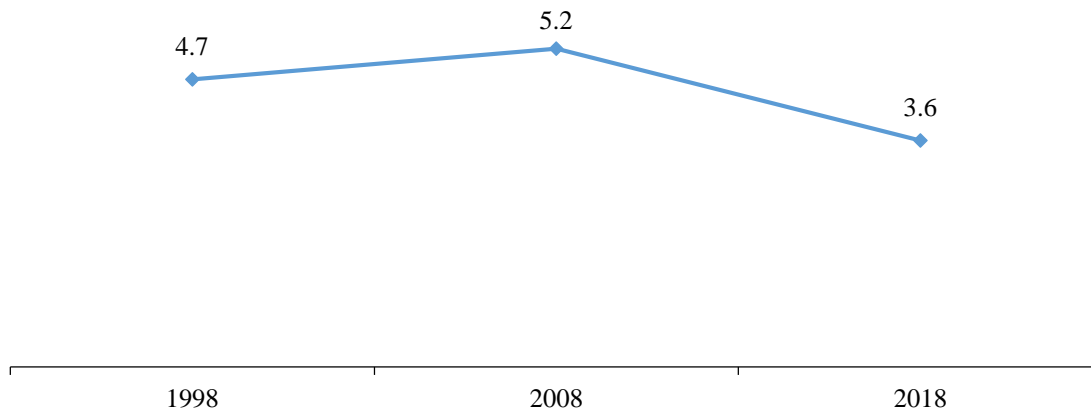


*Source: 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census; World Urbanisation Prospects 2018, United Nations*

#### 4.2.2 Tempo of Urbanization in Malawi

Tempo of urbanised increased from 1998 to 2008, but declined in 2018 from 5.2 percent to 3.6 percent. This is mainly caused by the decrease of rural urban migration due to an increase in unemployment rate, and most people work in towns but their settlement is in rural, (Figure 4.3).

**Figure 4.3: Tempo of Urbanisation, Malawi 1998, 2008 and 2018**



*Source: 1998, 2008, 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

#### 4.2.2 Tempo of Urbanization for Malawi and Neighboring Countries

Malawi has a lower tempo of urbanization compared to other neighboring countries such as Zambia (4.2 percent), Mozambique (4.4 percent) and Tanzania (5.2 percent). The Malawi tempo of urbanization only outranked Zimbabwe, which was 2.2 percent (Table 4.1).

**Table 4.1: Tempo of urbanization for Malawi and neighboring countries, Malawi 2018**

Country	Percentage of Urban Population to the Total Population	Urban Growth Rate (%)
Zimbabwe	32.2	2.2
<b>Malawi</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>
Zambia	43.5	4.2
Mozambique	36.0	4.4
Tanzania	33.8	5.2

*Source: 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census; World Urbanisation Prospects 2018, United Nations*

#### 4.2.3 Concentration of Urban Population in Malawi

In terms of population sizes of urban centers in Malawi, the 2018 PHC showed that the four cities: Lilongwe (989,318); Blantyre (800,264) Mzuzu (221,272); and Zomba (105,013) accounted for 76.7 percent of the total urban population in Malawi (Table 4.2).

**Table 4.2: Concentration of urban population in Malawi, 2018**

Urban Area	Urban Population Size	Percentage of Total Urban Population
Zomba	105,013	3.8
Mzuzu	221,272	8.0
Blantyre	800,264	29.0
Lilongwe	989,318	35.9
Districts and other urban centers	700,625	23.3

*Source: 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

#### 4.2.4 Population Sizes of Urban Centers in Malawi

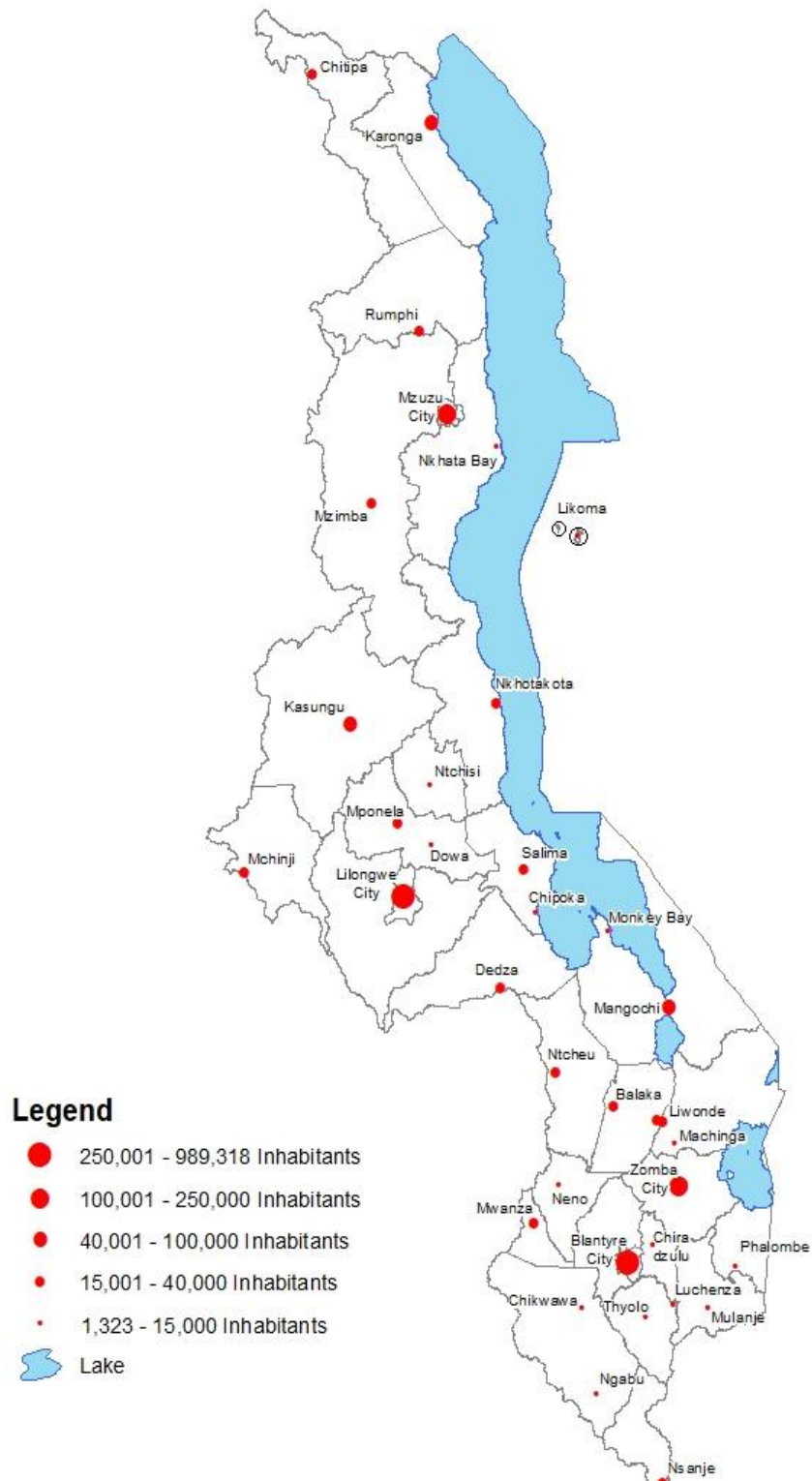
Likoma boma, Machinga boma, Neno boma and Chiradzulu boma are some of the eleven urban centers that had less than 10,000 people. Luchenza municipal, Mulanje boma, Nkhata Bay boma and Chitipa boma are among the seven centers that had 10,000 to 19,999 people, while Ntcheu boma, Rumphu boma, Mponela urban and Nsanje boma are one of the eight centers which had 20,000 to 29,999 people, while Salima town, Balaka town and Dedza boma had 30,000 to 39,999 people, Mangochi town and Kasungu Municipal Council had 50,000 to 59,999 people, Karonga Town had 61,609 people (figure 4.3 & annex 1E).

**Table 4.3: Population sizes of urban centers**

<b>Population Size Class</b>	<b>Number of Urban Centers</b>
<10,000	11
10,000 to 19,999	7
20,000 to 29,999	8
30,000 to 39,999	3
40,000- 49,999	0
50,000 to 59,999	2
>59,999	1

*Source: 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

**Figure 4.4: Population sizes of urban centers in Malawi, 2018**

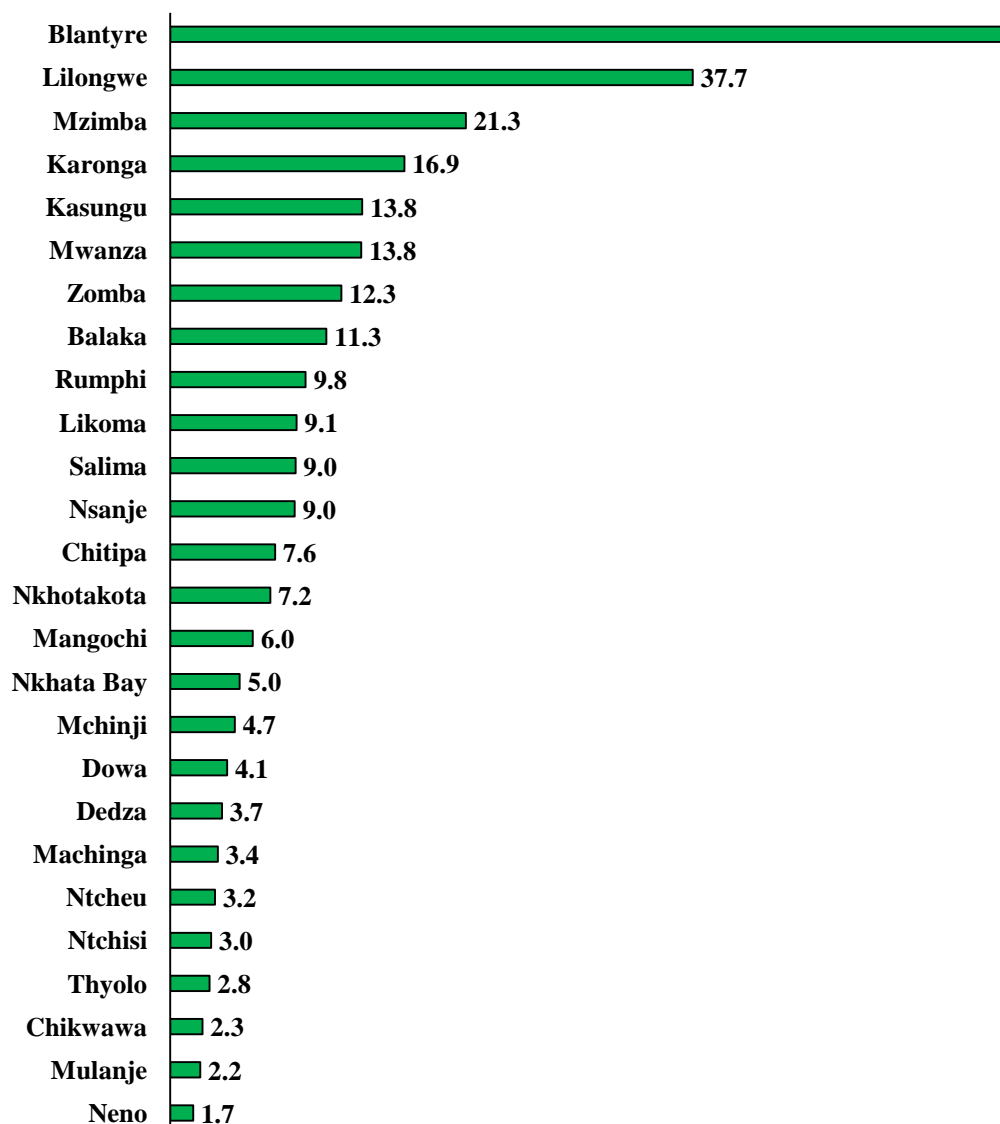


Source: 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census

#### 4.2.5 Urban Population within Districts

Blantyre was the most urbanized district (63.9 percent) followed by Lilongwe (37.7 percent) then Mzimba (21.3 percent). Among other districts only Karonga (16.9 percent) was above the national percentage of urban population of 16.0 percent. Chiradzulu (0.8 percent) happened to be the least urbanised district, (Figure 4.5).

**Figure 4.5: Percentage of urban population within districts, Malawi 2018**



*Source: 2018 Malawi Population and Housing Census*

## 5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

2018 PHC has provided accurate changes of the total population sizes for each administrative region, districts and traditional or sub-traditional authorities as well as urban centers and wards and areas in the four major cities in Malawi. The analysis of the 2018 PHC data indicated that there were significant imbalances of spatial population distribution in terms of population sizes of different geographical areas across the country. Regardless of their geographical sizes some districts such as Lilongwe rural, Mangochi, Mzimba are more populous than other districts such as Likoma, Mwanza and Ntchisi.

Taking into account of geographical sizes of the districts, the analysis of the 2018 PHC has indicated that although some districts had large population sizes, their population densities were low, for example, Mzimba district. Conversely, some districts which had small population sizes, had high population densities on account of their relatively small geographic areas for example Likoma. All the four cities in Malawi showed high population densities.

The census showed that Malawi is slowly urbanizing from 15.3 percent in 2008 to 16.0 in 2018. Blantyre, Lilongwe, Mzimba and Zomba districts had high percentage of urban population which were above the national average of 16 percent urbanization.

The government of Malawi introduced some interventions in previous years since independence such as the establishment of Malawi Housing Corporation, the preparation of the National Physical Development Plan in 1987, enactment of the Town and Country Planning Act and implementation of the Secondary Centers Program to promote urbanization process in the country. These interventions were aimed at providing urban infrastructure and services such as housing, health facilities, education, water supply, roads, electricity and so forth. However, these interventions had not been successful to promote sustainable urban development. The population and housing census results shall provide ammunition for assessing the success and shortfalls and reprogramming of these development initiatives.

The census will help the government in distribution of funds and resources according to the population sizes of different districts and their sub districts in order to promote equitable distribution of socio-economic development across the country.

It is therefore recommended that the government departments, the Private sector, Non-Governmental organisations, development partners, Civil Society Organizations and international organisations should fully utilize this spatial distribution and analytical report in order to promote socio- economic development across the country.

The government should formulate relevant policies that will influence the spatial distribution of the population and promote rural development and sustainable urbanization in order to facilitate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda for

Sustainable Development which were adopted during the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in October 2016.

The government is therefore requested to come up with policies, strategies, measures and programs which will improve the socio-economic conditions of people living in both rural and urban areas. The government should facilitate provision of decent standards of living by providing adequate housing and creating more economic opportunities for the poor people living in urban areas. The government and other stakeholders should assist district, city, municipal councils and other prominent urban centers in planning and management of their urban infrastructure and services such as water supply, innovative solid waste management, electricity, drainage and sewerage, transportation, health, education, recreational places and fire stations in order to promote sustainable urban development.

# ANNEX

## ANNEX 1: STATISTICAL TABLES

### Annex 1A: Population of Malawi by Regional and District, 2008 and 2018

Region and District	Total Population		Inter-censal Growth Rate	Inter-censal increase	
	2008	2018	2008 - 2018	Number	Percent
<b>Malawi</b>	<b>13,077,160</b>	<b>17,563,749</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>4,486,589</b>	<b>34.3</b>
<b>Northern</b>	<b>1,708,930</b>	<b>2,289,780</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>580850</b>	<b>34.0</b>
Chitipa	178,904	234,927	2.7	56023	31.3
Karonga	269,890	365,028	3.0	95138	35.3
Nkhata Bay	215,789	284,681	2.7	68892	31.9
Rumphi	172,034	229,161	2.8	57127	33.2
Mzimba	727,931	940,184	2.5	212253	29.2
Likoma	10,414	14,527	3.3	4113	39.5
Mzuzu City	133,968	221,272	5.0	87304	65.2
<b>Central</b>	<b>5,510,195</b>	<b>7,523,340</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2013145</b>	<b>36.5</b>
Kasungu	627,467	842,953	2.9	215486	34.3
Nkhotakota	303,659	393,077	2.6	89418	29.4
Ntchisi	224,872	317,069	3.4	92197	41.0
Dowa	558,470	772,569	3.2	214099	38.3
Salima	337,895	478,346	3.4	140451	41.6
Lilongwe	1,230,834	1,637,583	2.8	406749	33.0
Lilongwe City	674,448	989,318	3.8	314870	46.7
Mchinji	456,516	602,305	2.7	145789	31.9
Dedza	624,445	830,512	2.8	206067	33.0
Ntcheu	471,589	659,608	3.3	188019	39.9
<b>Southern</b>	<b>5,858,035</b>	<b>7,750,629</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>1892594</b>	<b>32.3</b>
Mangochi	797,061	1,148,611	3.6	351550	44.1
Machinga	490,579	735,438	4.0	244859	49.9
Zomba	579,639	746,724	2.5	167085	28.8
Zomba City	88,314	105,013	1.7	16699	18.9
Chiradzulu	288,546	356,875	2.1	68329	23.7
Blantyre	340,728	451,220	2.8	110492	32.4
Blantyre City	661,256	800,264	1.9	139008	21.0
Mwanza	92,947	130,949	3.4	38002	40.9
Thyolo	587,053	721,456	2.0	134403	22.9
Mulanje	521,391	684,107	2.7	162716	31.2
Phalombe	313,129	429,450	3.1	116321	37.1
Chikwawa	434,648	564,684	2.6	130036	29.9
Nsanje	238,103	299,168	2.3	61065	25.6
Balaka	317,324	438,379	3.2	121055	38.1
Neno	107,317	138,291	2.5	30974	28.9

### Annex 1B: Population Distribution by Region and District, 1998, 2008 and 2018

Region and District	Total	Distribution Share (%)			Difference in Distribution Share (2008-2018)
		1998	2008	2018	
<b>Malawi</b>	<b>17,563,749</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Northern</b>	<b>2,289,780</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Chitipa	234,927	1.3	1.4	1.3	0.0
Karonga	365,028	2.0	2.1	2.1	0.0
Nkhata Bay	284,681	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0
Rumphi	229,161	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0
Mzimba	940,184	5.3	5.6	5.4	-0.2
Likoma	14,527	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Mzuzu City	221,272	0.9	1.0	1.3	0.2
					0.0
<b>Central</b>	<b>7,523,340</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>42.1</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Kasungu	842,953	4.8	4.8	4.8	0.0
Nkhotakota	393,077	2.3	2.3	2.2	-0.1
Ntchisi	317,069	1.7	1.7	1.8	0.1
Dowa	772,569	4.1	4.3	4.4	0.1
Salima	478,346	2.5	2.6	2.7	0.1
Lilongwe rural	1,637,583	9.1	9.4	9.3	-0.1
Lilongwe City	989,318	4.4	5.2	5.6	0.5
Mchinji	602,305	3.3	3.5	3.4	-0.1
Dedza	830,512	4.9	4.8	4.7	0.0
Ntcheu	659,608	3.7	3.6	3.8	0.1
					0.0
<b>Southern</b>	<b>7,750,629</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
Mangochi	1,148,611	6.1	6.1	6.5	0.4
Machinga	735,438	3.7	3.8	4.2	0.4
Zomba Rural	746,724	5.5	4.4	4.3	-0.2
Zomba City	105,013	0.7	0.7	0.6	-0.1
Chiradzulu	356,875	2.4	2.2	2.0	-0.2
Blantyre Rural	451,220	3.1	2.6	2.6	0.0
Blantyre City	800,264	5.1	5.1	4.6	-0.5
Mwanza	130,949	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.0
Thyolo	721,456	4.6	4.5	4.1	-0.4
Mulanje	684,107	4.3	4.0	3.9	-0.1
Phalombe	429,450	2.3	2.4	2.4	0.1
Chikwawa	564,684	3.6	3.3	3.2	-0.1
Nsanje	299,168	2.0	1.8	1.7	-0.1
Balaka	438,379	2.5	2.4	2.5	0.1
Neno	138,291	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0

## Annex 1C: Population by sub districts, 2018

<b>Malawi</b>	<b>17,563,749</b>
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>2,289,780</b>
<b>Chitipa</b>	<b>234,927</b>
TA Mwabulambya	67,232
STA Bulambya Songwe	34,137
TA Mwenemisuku	25,816
STA Lwangwa	5,597
TA Mwenewenya	23,721
TA Nthalire	19,340
STA Nthengatenga	10,410
STA Wavikaza	6,778
TA Kameme	24,153
Chitipa Boma	17,743
<b>Karonga</b>	<b>365,028</b>
TA Kilupula	78,424
TA Mwakaboko	24,889
TA Kyungu	89,672
TA Wasambo	72,989
TA Mwirang'ombe	37,445
Karonga Town	61,609
<b>Nkhatabay</b>	<b>284,681</b>
TA Kabunduli	50,533
TA Fukamapiri	20,676
TA Malenga Mzoma	10,892
TA Malanda	27,342
TA Zilakoma	18,063
TA Mankhambira	24,642
TA Fukamalaza	14,470
TA Mkumbira	15,078
TA M'bwana	24,058
STA Nyaluwanga	13,058
STA Kondowe	2,140
TA Timbiri	47,713
TA Boghoyo	1,742
Nkhatabay Boma	14,274
<b>Rumphi</b>	<b>229,161</b>
TA Chikulamayembe	70,421
TA Mwamlowe	8,481
TA Mwahenga	20,067
TA Mwalweni	27,976
STA Kachulu	13,121
STA Chapinduka	3,754
TA Mwankhunikira	25,466
TA Katumbi	15,543
STA Zolokere/Vwaza Marsh Reserve	6,834
STA Chisovya	9,234
STA Njikula	4,024
Nyika National Park	1,882
Rumphi Boma	22,358

<b>Mzimba</b>	<b>940,184</b>
TA M'Mbelwa	128,656
TA Mtwalo	191,108
TA Kampingo Sibande	68,719
TA Jaravikuba Munthali	17,699
TA Chindi	161,938
TA Mzikubola	101,108
TA Mabulabo	64,274
TA Khosolo Gwaza Jere	56,973
TA Mpherembe	67,292
TA Mzukuzuku	37,528
TA Levi Jere	18,793
Mzimba Boma	26,096
<b>Likoma</b>	<b>14,527</b>
Mkumpha	13,204
Likoma Boma	1,323
<b>Mzuzu City</b>	<b>221,272</b>
Chibavi East Ward	8,066
Chibavi West Ward	12,397
Chibanja Ward	11,385
Chiputula Ward	12,162
Jombo-Kaning'ina	6,286
Katawa Ward	5,579
Luwinga Ward	28,030
Masasa Ward	23,145
Mchengautuwa East Ward	26,971
Mchengautuwa West Ward	30,591
Msongwe Ward	9,856
Mzilawaingwe Ward	7,047
Nkhorongo-Lupaso Ward	10,148
Zolozolo East Ward	8,034
Zolozolo West Ward	21,575
<b>Central Region</b>	<b>7,523,340</b>
<b>Kasungu</b>	<b>842,953</b>
TA Kaluluma	38,036
TA Chisemphere	11,623
TA Simlemba	40,406
STA M'nyanja	38,726
STA Chisikwa	7,830
TA Kaomba	51,295
TA Kawamba/Kasungu National Park	45,837
STA Nthunduwala	11,269
TA Njombwa	50,445
TA Chilowamatambe	35,464
STA Chambwe	13,682
TA Chulu	33,041
STA Chisinga	23,003
STA Mphomwa	23,022
STA Chaima	25,841
TA Kaphaizi	2,249
STA Mangwazu	5,641
STA Mawawa	8,115
TA Lukwa	30,633
Kasungu Boma	58,653
TA Santhe	58,065
TA Chidzuma	20,156
TA Wimbe	125,427
TA Kapelula	31,605
STA Kapichira	7,283
STA Mdunga	13,792
TA Mwase	31,814

<b>Nkhotakota</b>	<b>393,077</b>
TA Kanyenda	116,546
TA Kafuzila	24,068
STA Kalimanjira	19,662
TA Malenga Chanzi	43,257
TA Mphonde	31,255
TA Mwadzama	99,063
TA Mwansambo	29,239
Nkhotakota Game Reserve	1,637
Nkhotakota Boma	28,350
<b>Ntchisi</b>	<b>317,069</b>
TA Kasakula	19,850
TA Chikho	24,541
TA Kalumo	74,850
TA Nthondo	32,219
TA Chilooko	89,619
TA Vuso Jere	15,946
TA Malenga	50,687
Ntchisi Boma	9,357
<b>Dowa</b>	<b>772,569</b>
TA Dzoole	98,609
TA Chakhaza	156,985
TA Kayembe	115,013
TA Chiwere	105,708
TA Mkukula	122,604
TA Msakambewa	91,421
TA Mponela	50,551
Dowa Boma	7,135
Mponela Urban	24,543
<b>Salima</b>	<b>478,346</b>
TA Maganga	70,173
TA Karonga	78,297
TA Pemba	24,734
TA Kambwiri	41,701
TA Ndindi	47,795
TA Kambalame	22,354
TA Khombedza	95,391
TA Mwanza	25,827
TA Kuluunda	19,521
TA Msosa	9,369
Salima Town	36,789
Chipoka Urban	6,395
<b>Lilongwe Rural</b>	<b>1,637,583</b>
TA Chadza	143,216
TA Kalolo	177,087
TA Masula	84,035
TA Masumbankhunda	86,580
TA Chiseka	141,303
TA Mazengera	115,932
STA Chitekwele	48,604
TA Khongoni	140,536
TA Chimutu	112,118
TA Chitukula	25,482
TA Mtema	65,553
TA Kalumbu	68,527
TA Tsabango	63,076
TA Kalumba	42,444
TA Njewa	49,769
TA Malili	115,931
TA Kabudula	145,319
STA Mbang'ombe	12,071

<b>Mchinji</b>	<b>602,305</b>
TA Mlonyeni	57,408
TA Mavwere	102,390
TA Zulu	69,069
TA Simphasi	50,571
TA Mduwa	66,854
STA Nyoka	41,416
TA Mkanda	75,328
STA Gumba	16,953
STA Pitala	4,736
STA Kapunula	9,724
TA Kazyozyo	6,971
TA Dambe	62,248
TA Kapondo	10,626
Mchinji Boma	28,011
<b>Dedza</b>	<b>830,512</b>
TA Kachere	167,652
TA Chilikumwendo	78,860
TA Kaphuka	168,027
TA Tambala	84,103
TA Chauma	22,646
TA Kasumbu	110,262
TA Kachindamoto	131,195
TA Kamenya Gwaza	36,839
Dedza Boma	30,928
<b>Ntcheu</b>	<b>659,608</b>
TA Phambala	44,626
STA Tsikulamowa	39,628
TA Mpando	77,612
TA Kwataine	53,379
TA Makwangwala	87,215
STA Mkutumula	29,361
TA Champiti	21,607
TA Njolomole	71,003
TA Chakhumbira	35,074
TA Goodson Ganya	143,536
TA Masasa	35,326
Ntcheu Boma	21,241
<b>Lilongwe City</b>	<b>989,318</b>
Area 1	9,310
Area 2/Area 4	2,618
Area 3/37	3,885
Area 6/Area 5	1,987
Area 7/Area 33	26,992
Area 8	18,023
Area 9	2,019
Area 10/Area 20	3,224
Area 12/Area 34/Area 11/Area 13	3,051
Area 14/Area 32	819
Area 15	1,209
Area 18	8,717
Area 21	43,937
Area 22	33,501
Area 23	51,691
Area 24	37,031

<b>Lilongwe City – Cont'</b>	
Area 25	107,316
Area 26	6,822
Area 27	3,200
Area 30	2,489
Area 35/Area 41/Area 17	10,928
Area 36	92,733
Area 38	22,551
Area 39/29	6,598
Area 43	6,208
Area 44	63,502
Area 45	3,725
Area 46	6,630
Area 47	11,644
Area 49/Area 48	52,948
Area 50/Area 28	82,912
Area 51	16,748
Area 52	6,025
Area 53	22,294
Area 54	6,100
Area 55	21,894
Area 56	66,574
Area 57	88,973
Area 58	32,490
<b>Southern Region</b>	<b>7,750,629</b>
<b>Mangochi</b>	<b>1,148,611</b>
TA Mponda	167,313
TA Chimwala	93,858
TA Chilipa	36,280
TA Nankumba/Lake Malawi National Park	159,775
TA Jalasi	102,879
TA Mbwana Nyambi	117,911
TA Chowe	112,155
TA Katuli	71,100
TA Makanjila	66,914
STA Lulanga	43,101
TA Namabvi	47,783
STA Ntonda	21,002
STA Chiunda	40,087
Mangochi Town	53,498
Monkey Bay Urban	14,955
<b>Machinga</b>	<b>735,438</b>
TA Liwonde/Liwonde National Park	89,424
STA Nsanama	38,518
TA Sitola	25,138
TA Nkula	27,349
STA Nchinguza	31,816
TA Kawinga	92,144
TA Nkoola	54,169
TA Chamba	33,009
TA Mposa	36,000
TA Mlomba	62,263
TA Chikweo	83,273
TA Ngokwe	37,602
TA Chiwalo	13,149
TA Kapoloma	15,789
TA Nyambi	55,989
STA Chesale	14,599
Machinga Boma	1,833
Liwonde Town	23,374

<b>Zomba Rural</b>	<b>746,724</b>
TA Kuntumanji	48,079
TA Mwambo	151,997
TA Mkumbira	6,211
TA Chikowi	63,831
TA Mbiza	85,311
TA Malemia	82,320
TA Mlumbe	127,300
STA Nkagula	51,548
STA Ntholowa	50,738
STA Ngwelero	34,034
STA Nkapita	45,355
<b>Chiradzulu</b>	<b>356,875</b>
TA Mpama	50,846
TA Likoswe	68,321
TA Kadewere	54,044
TA Nkalo	54,475
TA Chitera	22,859
TA Nchema	21,848
STA Mpunga	41,140
STA Sandareki	22,713
STA Onga	17,668
Chiradzulu Boma	2,961
<b>Blantyre Rural</b>	<b>451,220</b>
TA Kapeni	103,742
TA Lundu	32,271
TA Chigaru	51,779
TA Kunthembe	45,972
TA Makata	20,032
TA Kuntaja	84,765
TA Machinjiri	29,991
TA Somba	82,668
<b>Mwanza</b>	<b>130,949</b>
TA Kanduku	49,941
TA Nthache	43,190
STA Govati	19,779
Mwanza Boma	18,039
<b>Thyolo</b>	<b>721,456</b>
TA Nsabwe	42,511
STA Thukuta	21,354
STA Mbawela	49,022
TA Changata	41,828
TA Mphuka	63,771
TA Kwethemule	58,237
TA Kapichi	60,898
TA Nchilamwela	71,158
TA Chimaliro	56,764
TA Bvumbwe	110,031
TA Thomas	37,709
TA Nanseta	31,797
TA Ngolongoliwa	33,839
STA Boyidi	22,094
Thyolo Boma	7,843
Luchenza Town	12,600

<b>Mulanje</b>	<b>684,107</b>
TA Mabuka	108,442
TA Laston Njema	91,742
TA Chikumbu	87,148
TA Nthiramanja	51,108
TA Nkanda/Mulanje Mountain Reserve	128,376
TA Juma	109,821
STA Sunganinzeru	68,585
STA Tombondiya	24,103
Mulanje Boma	14,782
<b>Phalombe</b>	<b>429,450</b>
TA Mkhumba	110,623
TA Nazombe	60,745
TA Chiwalo	43,933
TA Nkhulambe	40,313
TA Jenala	88,237
TA Kaduya	79,357
Phalombe Boma	6,242
<b>Chikwawa</b>	<b>564,684</b>
TA Ngabu	157,742
TA Lundu	62,176
TA Chapananga	88,641
TA Maseya	37,793
TA Katunga	32,943
TA Kasisi/Majete Game Reserve - Chikwawa	23,487
TA Makhwira	79,933
STA Ndakwela/Lengwe National Park	24,234
TA Mlilima	11,947
STA Masache	22,207
TA Ngowe	10,435
Chikwawa Boma	6,114
Ngabu Urban	7,032
<b>Nsanje</b>	<b>299,168</b>
TA Ndamera	33,679
TA Chimombo	12,334
TA Nyachikadza	7,643
TA Mlolo	69,110
TA Tengani	41,100
TA Malemia	22,437
TA Mbenje	53,559
TA Ngabu	13,381
TA Makoko	10,335
Mwabvi Game Reserve	8,746
Nsanje Boma	26,844
<b>Balaka</b>	<b>438,379</b>
TA Msamala	80,912
TA Kalembo	77,532
STA Kachenga	44,075
TA Amidu	46,314
TA Nkaya	45,351
STA Phalula	19,486
TA Chanthunya	30,229
TA Sawali	19,254
STA Matola	20,292
STA Toleza	5,579
Balaka Town	36,308
Liwonde Town	13,047

<b>Neno</b>	<b>138,291</b>
TA Dambe	33,130
TA Mlauli	35,569
TA Symon Likongwe	43,657
TA Chekucheku	23,652
Neno Boma	2,283
<b>Zomba City</b>	<b>105,013</b>
Mpira Ward	16,932
Mbedza Ward	7,783
Chinamwali Ward	15,207
Chirunga Ward	12,277
Ntiya Ward	5,778
Masongola Ward	5,494
Zomba Central Ward	6,057
Likangala Ward	15,682
Chambo Ward	5,584
Sadzi Ward	14,219
<b>Blantyre City</b>	<b>800,264</b>
Michiru Ward	83,987
South Lunzu Ward	53,831
Mapanga Ward	42,233
Nkolokoti Ward	57,763
Ndirande Matope Ward	33,549
Ndirande Makata Ward	28,468
Ndirande Gamulani Ward	35,822
Nyambadwe Ward	9,928
Mbayani Ward	69,764
Chilomoni Ward	28,214
Blantyre City Centre Ward	21,179
Namalinwe Ward	11,323
Limbe Central Ward	7,438
Mzedi Ward	38,474
Bangwe Ward	18,815
Bangwe Mthandizi Ward	19,942
Soche East Ward	9,590
Blantyre South Ward	26,317
Green Corner Ward	22,609
Soche West Ward	37,847
Namiyango Ward	48,642
Chigumula Ward	24,869
Misesa Ward	69,660

**Annex 1D: Population Density by Districts and Year, (2008-2018)**

Districts/Cities	Land Area Sq. Km	Population		Population Density	
		2008	2018	2008	2018
<b>Malawi</b>	<b>94,552</b>	<b>13,029,498</b>	<b>17,563,749</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>186</b>
Chitipa	4334	178,904	234,927	41	54
Karonga	3416	269,890	365,028	79	107
Nkhata Bay	4182	215,789	284,681	52	68
Rumphi	4560	172,034	229,161	38	50
Mzimba	10473	727,931	940,184	70	90
Likoma	20	10,414	14,527	521	726
Mzuzu City	146	133,968	221,272	918	1516
Kasungu	8017	627,467	842,953	78	105
Nkhotakota	4338	303,659	393,077	70	91
Ntchisi	1709	224,872	317,069	132	186
Dowa	3077	558,470	772,569	181	251
Salima	2151	337,895	478,346	157	222
Lilongwe	5808	1,230,834	1,637,583	212	282
Lilongwe City	403	674,448	989,318	1674	2455
Mchinji	3131	456,516	602,305	146	192
Dedza	3754	624,445	830,512	166	221
Ntcheu	3251	471,589	659,608	145	203
Mangochi	6729	797,061	1,148,611	118	171
Machinga	3582	490,579	735,438	137	205
Zomba	2363	579,639	746,724	245	316
Zomba City	42	88,314	105,013	2103	2500
Blantyre	1785	340,728	451,220	191	253
Blantyre City	240	661,256	800,264	2755	3334
Mwanza	756	92,947	130,949	123	173
Thyolo	1666	587,053	721,456	352	433
Mulanje	2005	521,391	684,107	260	341
Phalombe	1323	313,129	429,450	237	325
Chikwawa	4878	434,648	564,684	89	116
Nsanje	1945	238,103	299,168	122	154
Balaka	2142	317,324	438,379	148	205
Neno	1561	107,317	138,291	69	89

### Annex 1E: Population Sizes of the Urban Centers in Malawi, 2018

Urban Centre	Population Size	Percentage Share of the Total Urban Population
Likoma Boma	1,323	0.05
Machinga Boma	1,833	0.07
Neno Boma	2,283	0.08
Chiradzulu Boma	2,961	0.11
Chikwawa Boma	6,114	0.22
Phalombe Boma	6,242	0.23
Chipoka Urban	6,395	0.23
Ngabu Urban	7,032	0.25
Dowa Boma	7,135	0.26
Thyolo Boma	7,843	0.28
Ntchisi Boma	9,357	0.34
Luchenza Municipal	12,600	0.46
Liwonde 2 Town(Balaka)	13,047	0.47
Nkhata Bay Boma	14,274	0.52
Mulanje Boma	14,782	0.54
Monkey Bay Urban	14,955	0.54
Chitipa Boma	17,743	0.64
Mwanza Boma	18,039	0.65
Ntcheu Boma	21,241	0.77
Rumphu Boma	22,358	0.81
Liwonde Town(Machinga)	23,374	0.85
Mponela Urban	24,543	0.89
Mzimba Boma	26,096	0.95
Nsanje Boma	26,844	0.97
Mchinji Boma	28,011	1.02
Nkhotakota Boma	28,350	1.03
Dedza Boma	30,928	1.12
Balaka Town	36,308	1.32
Salima Town	36,789	1.33
Mangochi Town	53,498	1.94
Kasungu Municipal Council	58,653	2.13
Karonga Town	61,609	2.23
Zomba City	105,013	3.81
Mzuzu City	221,272	8.02
Blantyre City	800,264	29.01
Lilongwe City	989,318	35.87

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