

# Socio-economic characteristics of communities within the geographic reach of the Caminos Program: A summary baseline analysis of select 2011 census data for relevant Unidades Geostatísticas Mínimas (UGMs)

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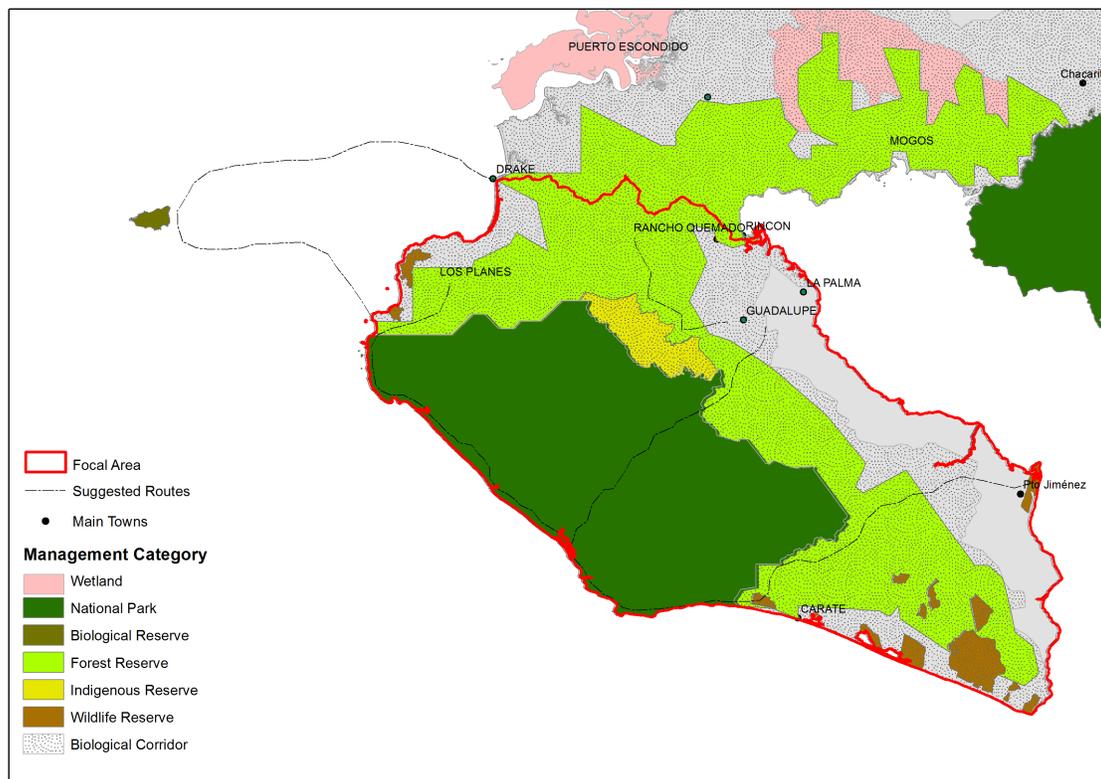
Neither the Osa and Golfito Initiative, nor the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, can guarantee the validity of the results documented in this report as the data and analysis were processed by third parties.

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## INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the results of an analysis of socio-demographic data derived from the 2011 Costa Rica census, conducted by INEC (National Institute of Statistics and Census). The analysis focuses on the minimum geostatistical units (UGM) that fall within the boundaries established for the reach of Cohort 1 participants of the *Caminos de Liderazgo* project<sup>1</sup> (hereafter referred to as *Caminos*) and the *Caminos* focal area (see map 1). *Caminos* is an ecotourism program supported by INOGO, CRUSA and SINAC and implemented by RBA, starting in 5 communities in the Osa Peninsula.



Map 1: Initial focal area of the Caminos project (Source: Lucia Morales, INOGO consultant, 2014).

The “virtual” boundaries of the focal area were determined based on a few factors including what members of 3 targeted communities indicated was the geographical area of their community, natural landscape features, as well as official administrative boundaries. The area includes a total of 182 UGMs within two districts [a small part of Sierpe (30 UGMs) and the remaining UGMs in Puerto Jiménez (152 UGMs)].

For this analysis, a subset of variables from the census questionnaire was considered. The variables selected were those that could theoretically be either directly or indirectly affected over time by *Caminos* interventions:

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.caminosdeosa.com/blog/>; <http://inogo.stanford.edu/programas/programa-de-liderazgo>.

- House characteristics
  - Type
  - Occupancy
  - House ownership
  - Number of bedrooms
  - Source of water supply
  - Type of toilet
  - Energy supply
  - Cooking fuel
  - Solid waste disposal
  - House condition
  - Household Possessions
- Household characteristics
  - Household head
  - Gender of single-headed households
  - Emigration
- Household member characteristics
  - Age
  - School attendance
  - Place of birth
  - Social security type
  - Education level
  - Years of education
  - Place of residence 5 years ago
  - Occupational category
  - Location workplace

# RESULTS

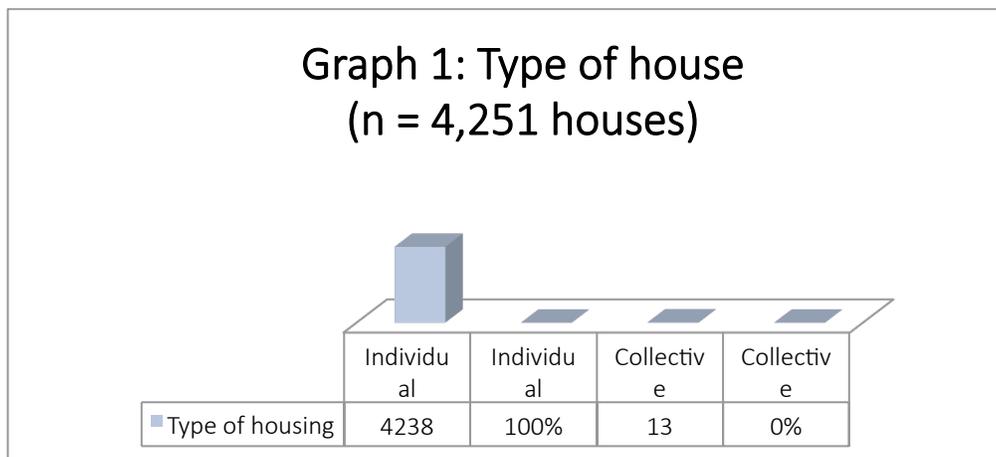
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In total, there were 4264 houses in 2011 that fall within the boundaries of the Caminos focal area; 83% (3,537) were located in the district of Puerto Jimenez and 17% (727) in Sierpe District. Of these, 1022 (24%) were in urban areas versus 3248 (24%) in what was considered by the census as rural areas. 100% of the urban UGMs fell within the district of Puerto Jimenez. The occupied houses included 10,667 people interviewed for the census, 82% (8789) of which were in houses in Puerto Jiménez District and 18% (1878) in Sierpe District.

## House characteristics

### *Type of house*

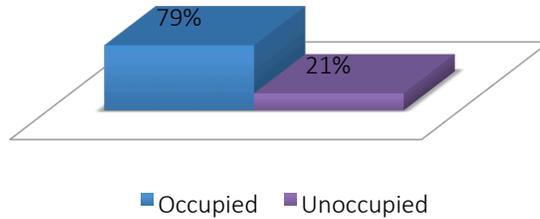
Graph 1 reveals that effectively 100% were individual houses (<1% collective).



### *House Occupancy*

Graph 2 shows that 79% (3377) of the houses in the UGMs were occupied at the time of the census and 21% (880) were unoccupied. Among the few UGMs located in Sierpe District, the total number of *occupied* houses was 593. However, in some houses there was more than one family. Therefore, 3433 is the denominator number used for variables below that refer to number of families/households.

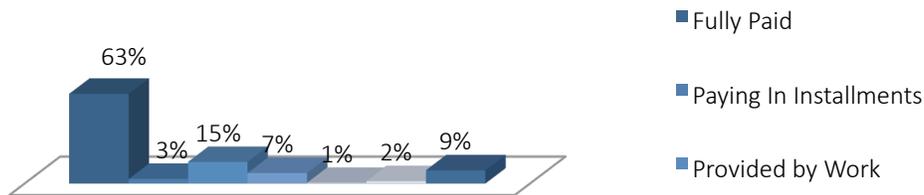
### Graph 2: Housing Occupancy (n = 4,257 houses)



#### House ownership

Among the 3,377 occupied houses, the majority (63% or 2119 houses), were completely paid for. The next highest proportion (15% or 511 houses) was provided for through people’s employment (Graph 3).

### Graph 3: House ownership (n = 3,377 houses)



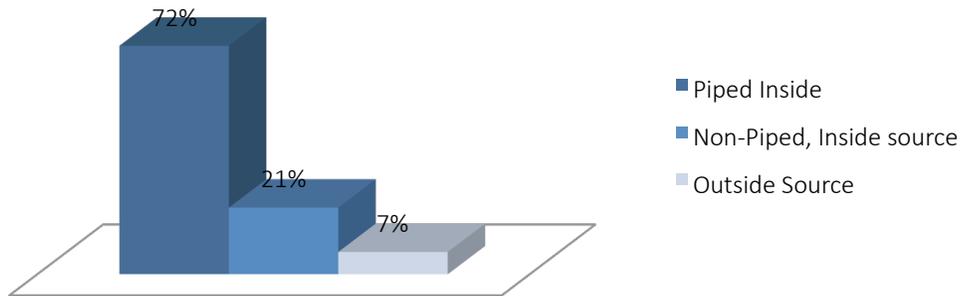
#### Number of bedrooms

In terms of house size, 34% had two bedrooms, 27% had no bedrooms, 17% had three bedrooms and 16% had one bedroom.

#### Source of drinking water

72% of the inhabited dwellings had piped drinking water (within the house), 21% had no in-house water access and in 7% of the houses, water was obtained from other sources such as a well or the riverbed (Graph 4).

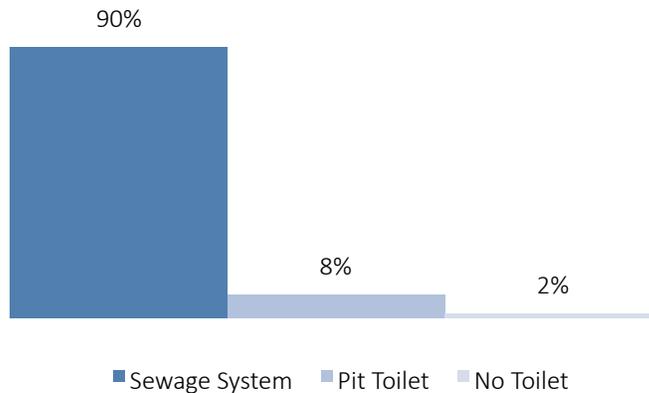
**Graph 4: Source of Drinking Water  
(n = 3,317 houses)**



*Type of toilet*

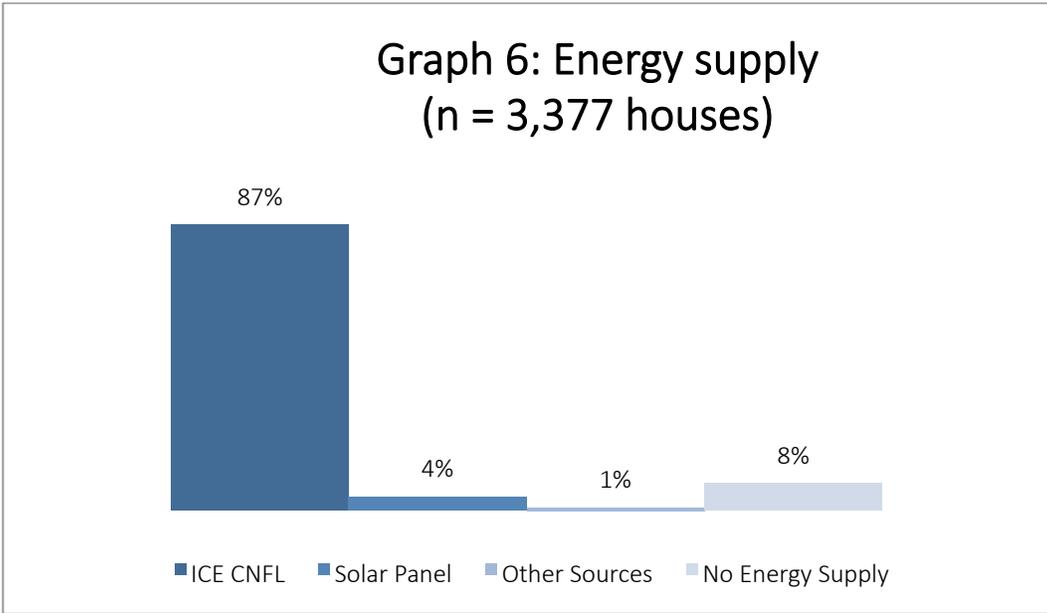
Of all 3377 houses, 90% (3051) had a septic tank for eliminating raw sewage, 8% (263) had a pit toilet, pit or a latrine and, 2% (55) did not have any toilet (Graph 5).

**Graph 5: Type of toilet  
(n = 3,377 houses)**



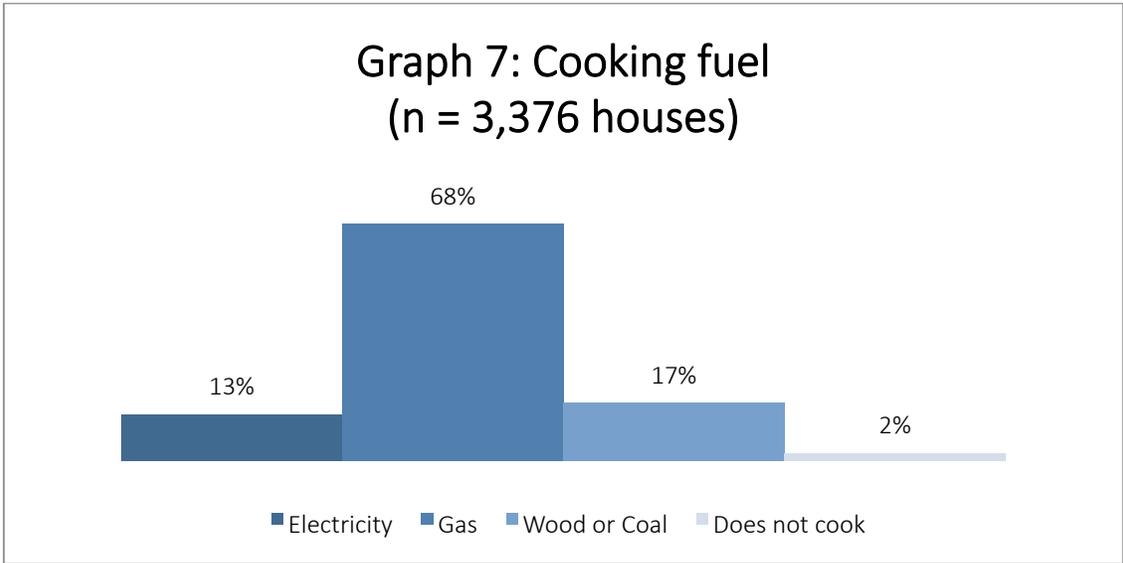
*Energy supply*

In most of the houses (87%) the energy supply was provided through ICE (Costa Rican Institute of Electricity) or CNFL (Compañía Nacional de Fuerza y Luz), 8% had no energy supply and 4% of the houses received energy from a solar panel (Graph 6).



*Cooking fuel*

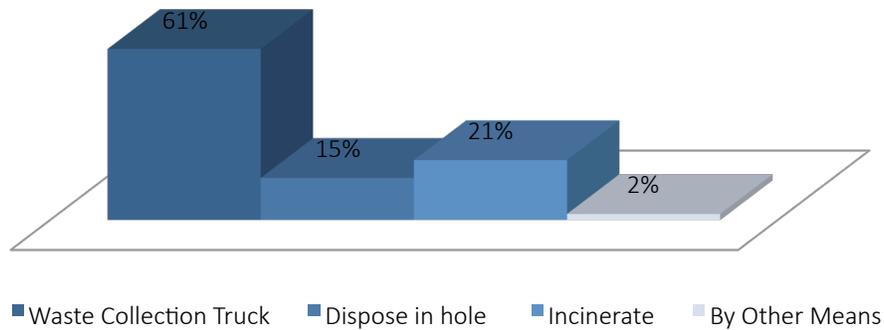
Gas was used in 68% (2289) of all houses for cooking, 17% (559) used wood or coal, 13% (449) used electricity and 2% of houses reported that they did not cook (Graph 7).



*Solid waste disposal*

Within the focal area, 61% (2061) of the houses got rid of their solid waste through truck collection, 21% (722) burned their waste, 15% (508) either put the waste in a hole or burned it, while the remaining 2% (73) eliminated their waste by other means (Graph 8).

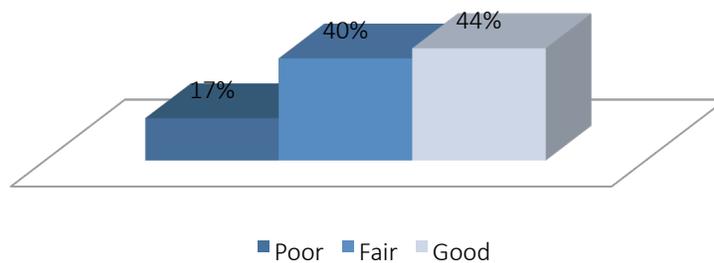
**Graph 8: Solid waste disposal**  
(n = 3,377 houses)



*House condition*

Regarding house condition, 44% (1477) were reported to be in good condition, 40% (1344) were in fair condition and 17% were in poor condition at the time of the census. The latter represents 556 properties, a high number and an important indicator of economic status in the geographic area analyzed (Graph 9).

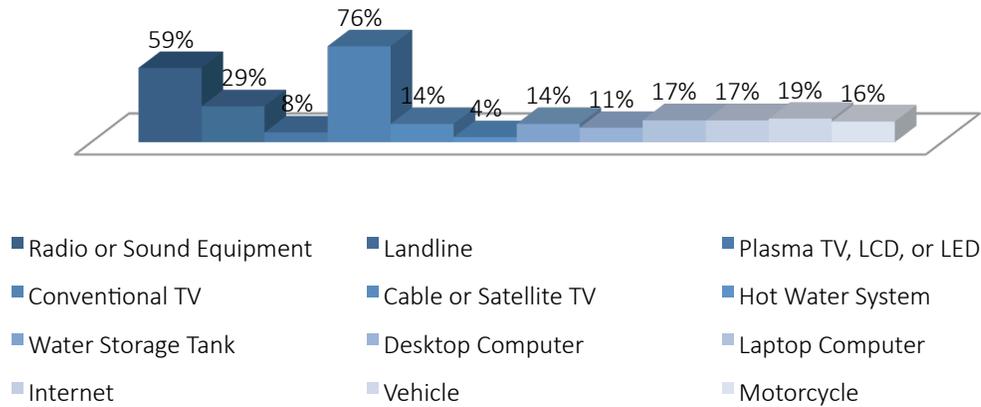
**Graph 9: House Condition**  
(n = 3,377 houses)



*Possessions*

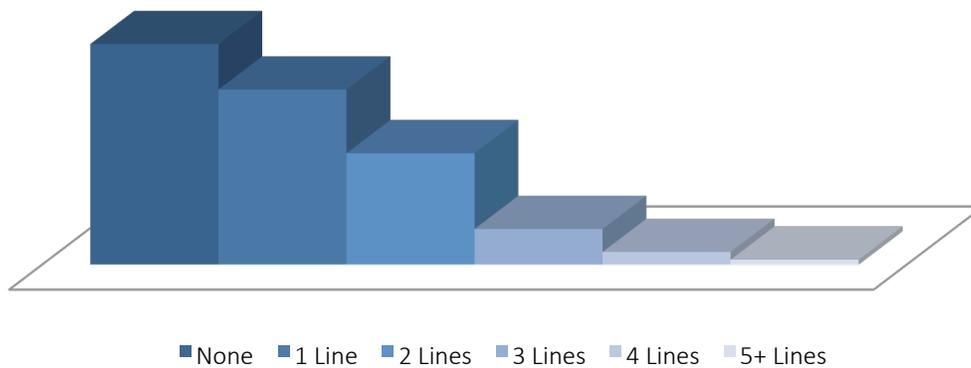
In order to analyze household possessions - proxy indicators of economic status - 12 variables were selected including: sound equipment, landline phone, various variables related to one's TV, hot water system, water storage tank, computer type, Internet access, vehicle and motorcycle. The three possessions most frequently cited were: a conventional TV (76% or 2540 households), a radio or stereo (59% or 1967 households), and a landline phone (29% or 952 households) (Graph 10) It is important to point out that usage of digital technologies was low. This can be observed in the percentage of houses reporting a laptop, desktop computer and/or Internet. (total could add up to more than 100% as houses could have more than of these possessions; denominators may vary depending on how many people responded to the question).

### Graph 10: Household Possessions



From Graph 11, it can be observed that more (39%) of the households reported having no mobile phone; fewer (31%) had one mobile phone and fewer still (25%) had two mobile phones.

### Graph 11: Mobile Phone Possession (n = 3,377 houses)



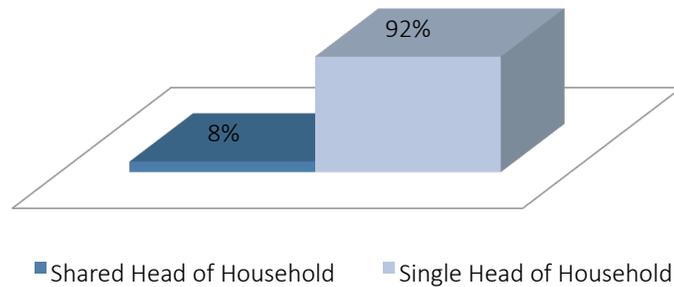
#### Household characteristics

In a number of houses there were more than one family. For this reason the denominator for household/family related questions (3433) is greater than the number of occupied houses (3377).

#### *Household head*

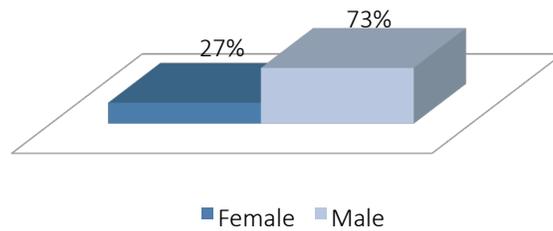
In Graph 12, data on the *Household head* variable are presented. As noted, 92% of the families indicated that they did not share household decision-making (i.e., who is considered head of the household).

**Graph 12: Household Head  
(n = 3,433 families)**



Of all households with one head, 73% were males and only 27% were females (Graph 13). That is, the traditional family structure of Costa Rica existed in most households within the selected UGMs.

**Graph 13: Gender of Single-Headed  
Households  
(n = 3,147 families)**



*Household emigrants*

Among all households, only 2% had emigrants among them; the other 98% stated they did not have any emigrants in the family (Graph 14).

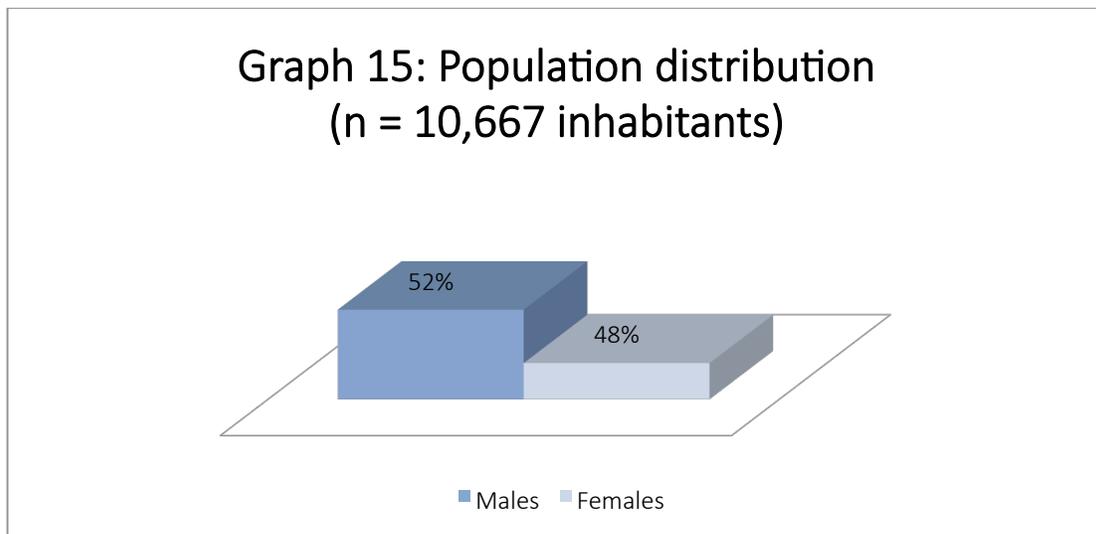
**Graph 14: Emigrants  
(n = 3,433 families)**



## Household member characteristics

### *Gender distribution*

Regarding the gender of the people in the selected UGM houses, 52% (5560) were men and 48% (5107) were women (Graph 15).



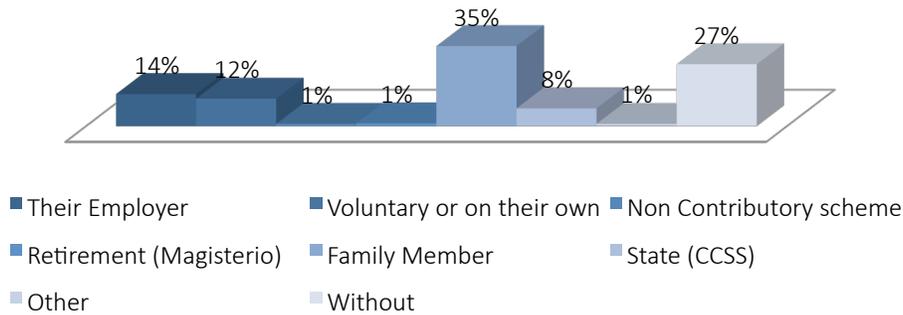
### *Place of Origin*

5% (518) of the people in the selected UGM houses were born in another country, 40% (4257) were born in a different canton from where they lived at the time of the census and 55% (5,892) were born in the same canton

### *Type of social security*

Graph 16 presents data on the type of social security the population of the selected UGMs had at the time of the census. As noted, 27% (2909) did not have any social insurance, 8% (839) were insured by the State, 35% (3760) were insured by an employee who is a family member, 1% (135) were insured by the Magisterio, 1% (110) of the population had a non-contributory social security scheme, 12% (1294) had social insurance on their own or voluntary, 14% (1508) had social insurance through their employment and 1% (112) had a social insurance of some other form.

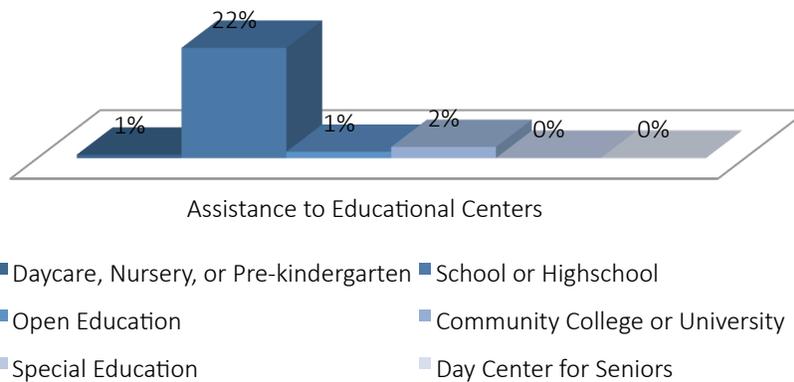
**Graph 16: Type of social security  
(n = 10,677 inhabitants)**



*School attendance*

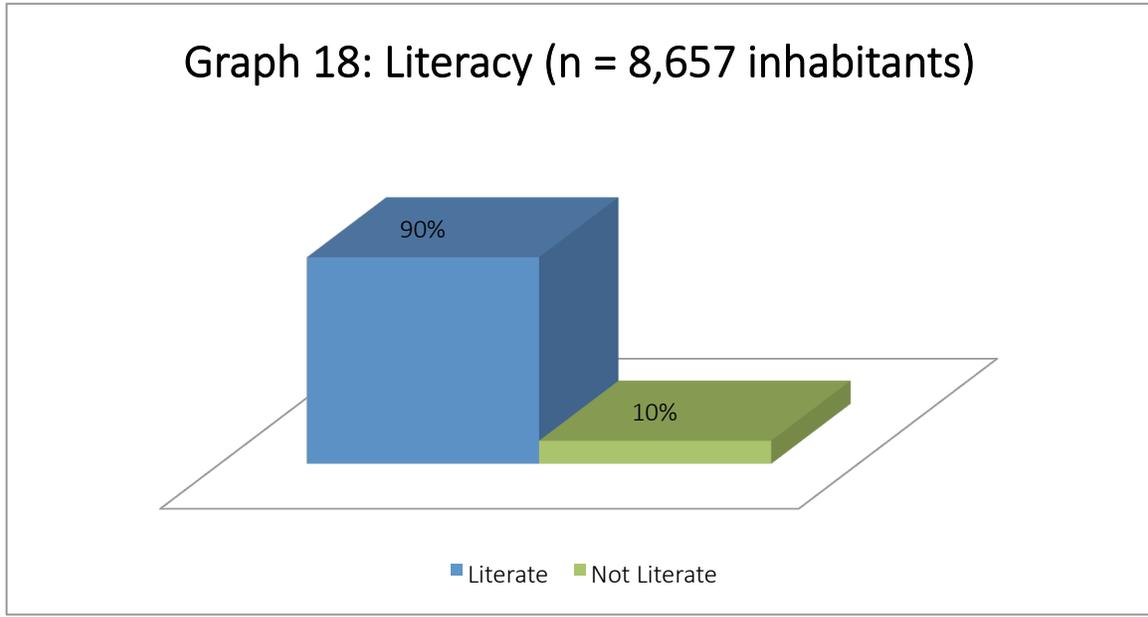
Graph 17 presents data on where the household members were attending school/receiving education at the time of the census. 84% (2383) of those attending any education center were attending kindergarten, school or high school, 3% (240) were attending a Community College or university, 3% (73) were enrolled in daycare, nursery or pre-kindergarten and 5% (137) were enrolled in “open education”. The rest of the population (7830 or 73%) were not attending any education center at the time of the census.

**Graph 17: School Attendance  
(n = 2,837 inhabitants)**



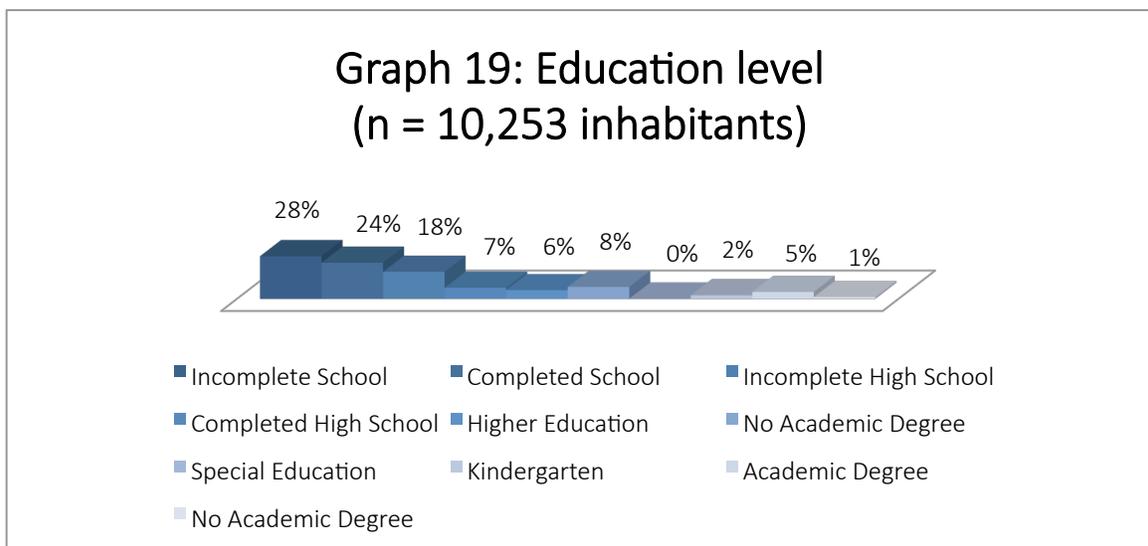
*Literacy*

As shown in Graph 18, 90% of the population (7800) indicated that they could read and write (i.e., were literate) and 10% (857) said they could not.



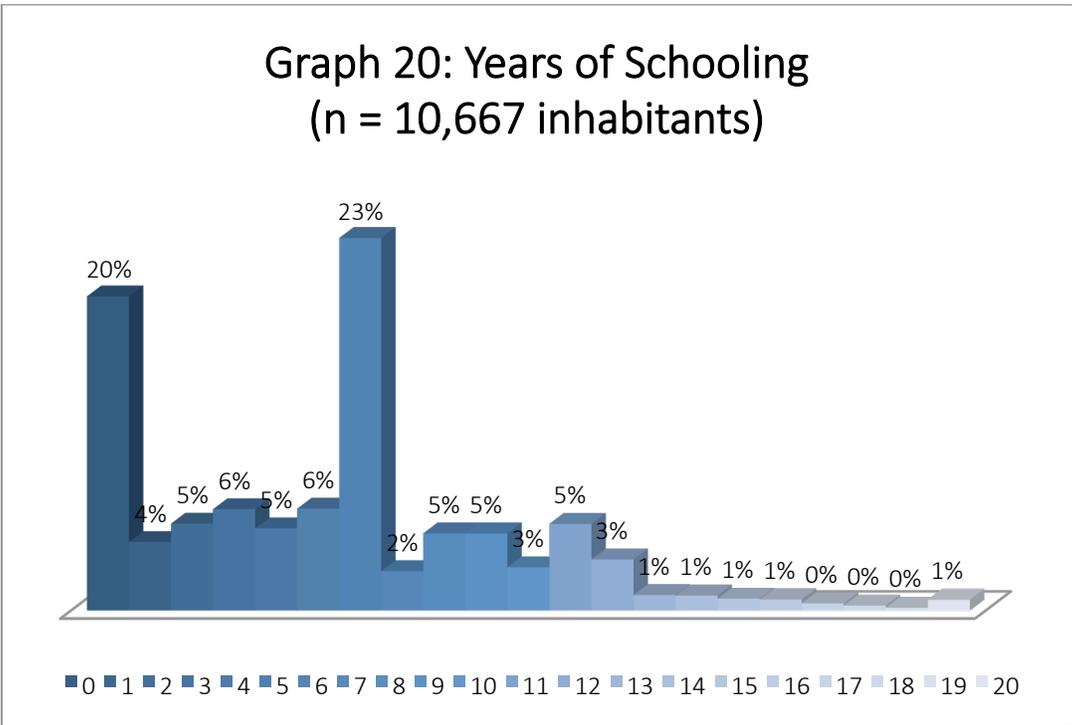
#### Education level

Regarding *Education level* (Graph 19), 28% (2917) of the population had not completed primary school, 24% (2468) had completed primary school, 18% (1851) had completed secondary school, 6% (754) had higher than secondary level education, 8% (596) stated they did not have any academic degree. Of note, the largest proportion (28%) were those who had not completed even primary level education.



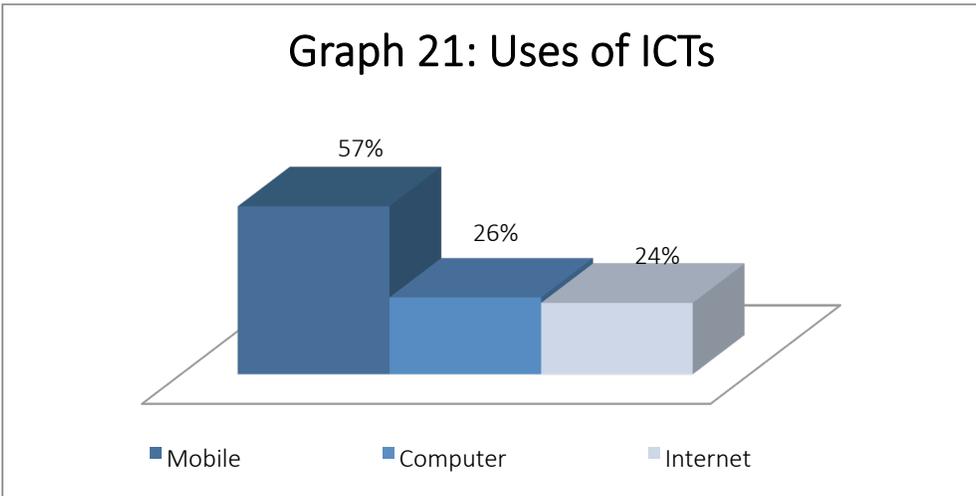
#### Years of schooling

With regard to *Level of Schooling* (Graph 20), the highest proportion (23% or 2468 respondents) said they had studied for only six years. This is consistent with the results above regarding the proportion that said they did not complete their primary education. 20% had not completed any schooling (including some less than school age).



*Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)*

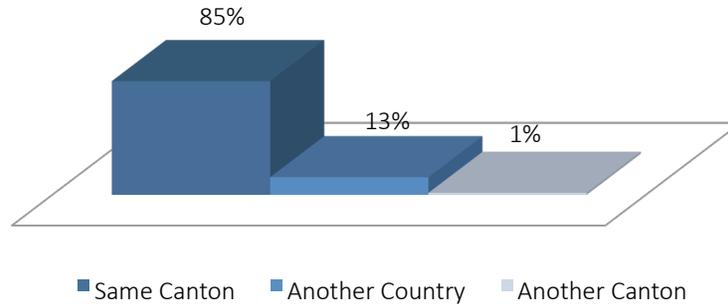
As noted in Graph 21, 57% of the total population (10667) used a mobile phone, 26% (2805) said they had used a computer and 24% (2603) had used the Internet. From these data, it can be concluded that ITC use is still at an incipient level (total could add up to >100% as a person could be using any one of these types of ICTs; and denominators could differ depending on how many people answered the question).



*Residence during the previous 5 years*

It can be seen from Graph 22 that most of the population (85% or 8253 people) had lived in the canton during the 5 years prior to the last census, 13% (1272) had lived in another country during the previous 5 years and only 1% had lived in another canton.

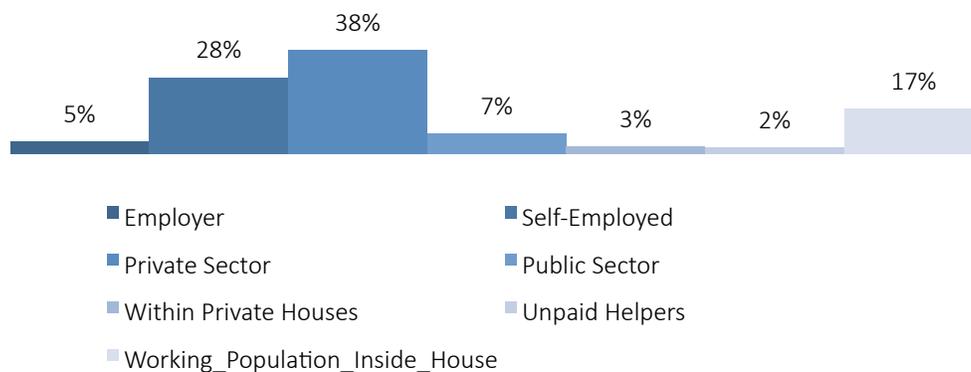
**Graph 22: Residence during the previous 5 years**  
(n = 9,657 inhabitants)



*Employment type*

Regarding the variable on *Type of Employment* (Graph 23), among the total (4449) who indicated that they were working at the time of the last census, 38% (1703) were employed by the private sector, 28% (1254) said they were working for themselves, 17% (739) worked in the house, 7% (327) were public employees, 5% (201) worked for a private employer (201), 3% (120) were employed in private houses and 2% (105) were assistants without payment.

**Graph 23: Type of Employment**  
(n = 4,449 inhabitants)



*Place of employment*

Regarding the place where people said they worked (Graph 24), 78% (2756) worked in the same canton at the time of the census and 13% (414) indicated that they worked in another canton.

Graph 24: Place of Employment  
(n = 3,165 inhabitants)

