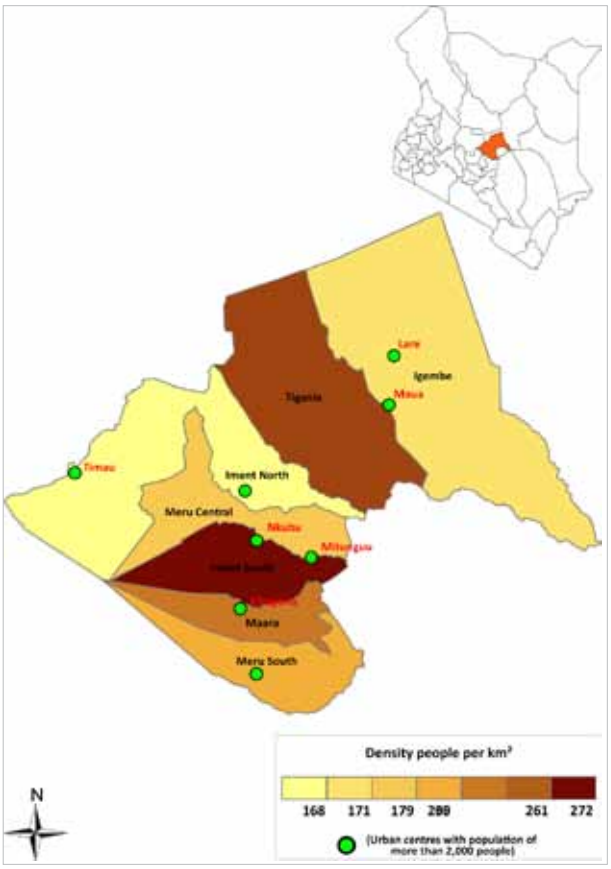
MERU COUNTY

General Information (2009)	Meru	Rank[a]	Kenya[b]
Population	1,356,301	7	821,491
Surface area (km²)	6,936	20	12,368
Density (people per km²)	196	23	66
Poverty rate, based on KIHBS (%)	28.3	5	47.2
Share of urban population (%)	12.0	41	29.9
Urban population in largest towns			
- Meru	53,627	41	
- Chuka	43,470	54	
- Chogoria	28,415	75	
- Maua	17,226	96	
- Timau	8,333	133	
- Nkubu	7,551	138	
- Kinna	4,867	173	
- Lare	4,614	175	
- Mitunguu	3,402	193	



Health and Education Outcomes	Meru	Rank[a]	Kenya[b]
Fully-immunized pop <1yr (%, 2010/11)	46.9	40	64.0
Malaria (as % of all 1st outpatient visits)	79.3	45	27.7
TB in every 10,000 people (2009/10)	52	39	39.0
HIV+ ante-natal care clients (%, 2010)	3.8	22	5.9
Population with primary education (%)	72.3	8	66.6
Population with secondary education (%)	12.6	18	12.7

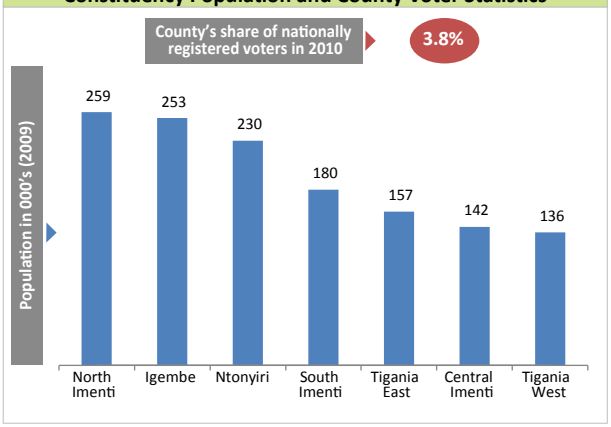
Funding Per Capita in Kshs. (2008/09)	Meru	Rank[a]	Kenya[b]
Constituency Development Fund (CDF)	251	32	300
Local Authority Transfer Fund (LATF)	228	16	218
Single Business Permit revenues by LAs	54	16	48
Property tax revenues by LAs	8	29	70
Rural Electrification Programme Fund	105	18	88
Total	**645**	**27**	**725**

Access to Infrastructure	Meru	Rank[a]	Kenya[b]
Improved water (% households 2009)	65.0	26	66.5
Improved sanitation (% households 2009)	97.6	14	87.8
Electricity (% households 2009)	13.1	18	22.7
Paved roads (as % of total roads)	5.4	26	9.4
Good/fair roads (as % of total roads)	26.9	44	43.5

Service Coverage	Meru	Rank[a]	Kenya[b]
Delivered in a health centre	69.5	4	37.5
Qualified medical assistant during birth	69.4	5	37.6
Had all vaccinations	65.0	37	75.0
Adequate height for age	49.0	41	59.8
Can read & write	59.7	34	66.4
Attending School, 15-18 years	68.7	32	70.9

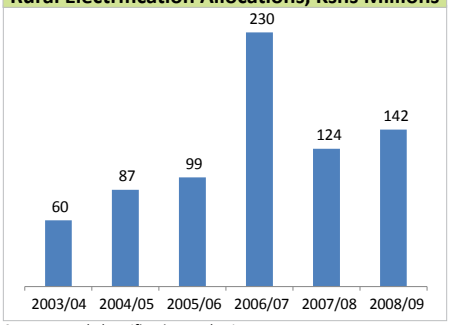
[a] *Except poverty rate, malaria TB & HIV, all rankings are in descending order i.e. highest to lowest.*
[b] *All entries in the 'Kenya' column show County averages.*

Constituency Population and County Voter Statistics



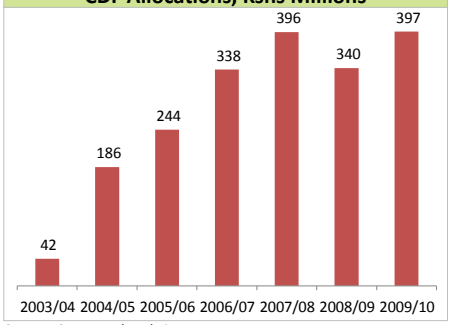
Source: KNBS.

Rural Electrification Allocations, Kshs Millions

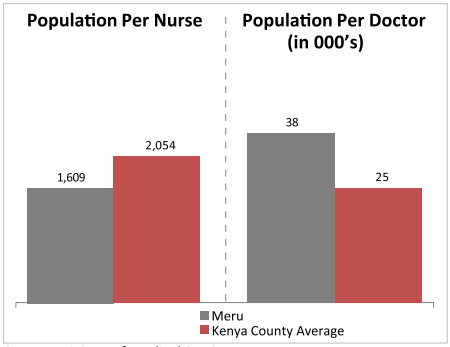


Source: Rural Electrification Authority.

CDF Allocations, Kshs Millions



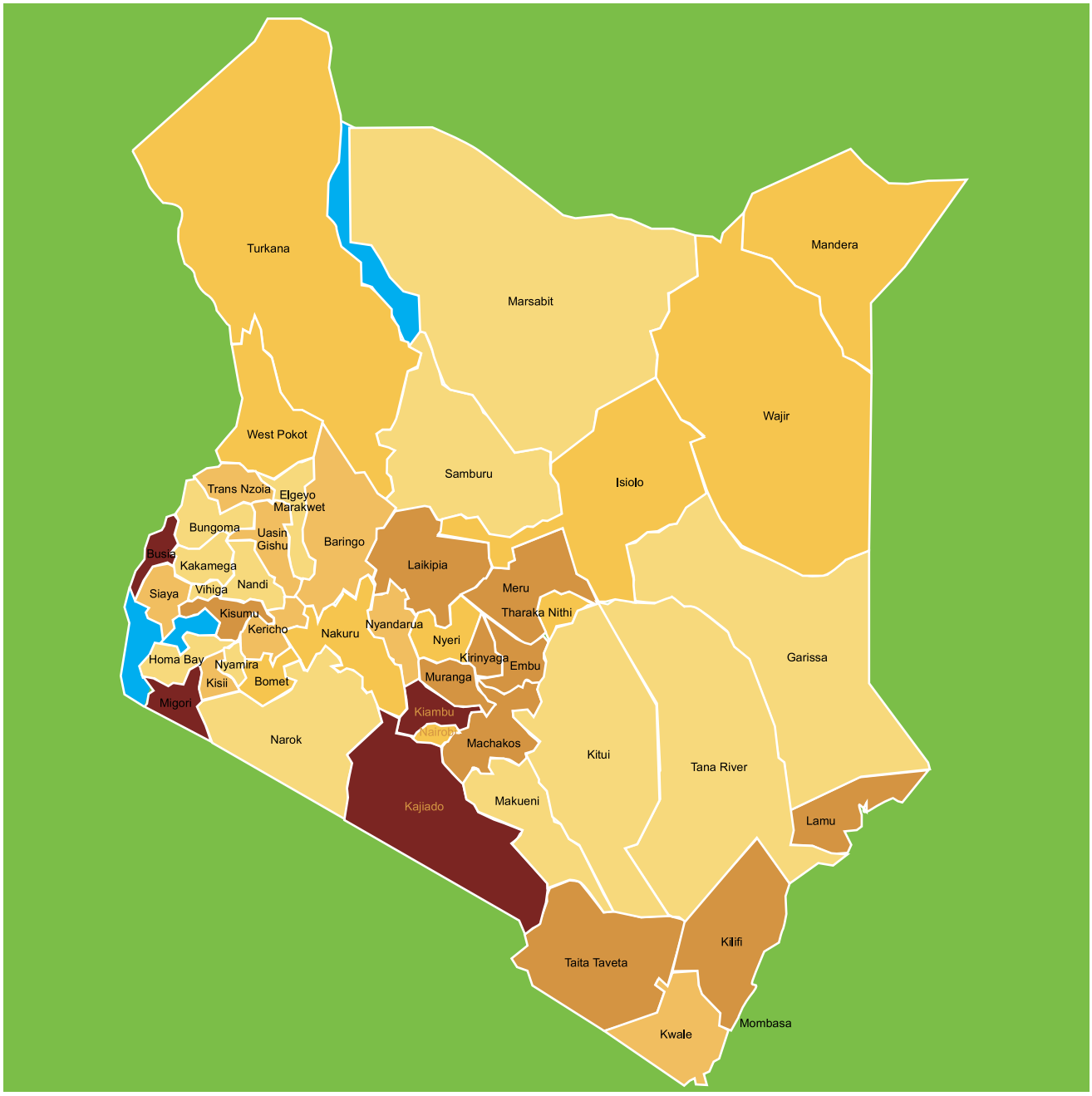
Source: CDF Board Website.



Source: Ministry of Medical Services.

KENYA

COUNTY FACT SHEETS



Commission on Revenue Allocation

Foreword by CRA Chairman

The Commission on Revenue Allocation is a new institution created by the Constitution of Kenya.

The principal function of the Commission is to make recommendations on the basis of equitable sharing of revenue raised nationally between the national government and the county governments and among the county governments. It has other several functions enumerated in Article 216 of the Constitution.

Reliable data is the cornerstone of firm policy decisions. We take this opportunity to launch this first edition of the County Facts Sheets. At a glance, the Fact Sheets provide important summary information of each county, such as, population, health, education and infrastructure.

This document carries vital data on each of the 47 counties which should be useful to many stakeholders, including those who are aspiring to join the counties either in elective or appointive offices. It will also be useful to development partners, academic institutions and the civil servants in both national and county governments.

This document is part of a series of other publications which are being launched by our Commission. The objective of the publications is to educate Kenyans on the role of the Commission, and the funding arrangements for Kenya's new system of devolved government.

Every effort has been made to ensure the facts in this document are accurate. We would however, request anyone who spots a major error to point it out to us through our contacts indicated at the back cover of this booklet.

Micah Cheserem
Chairman, Commission on Revenue Allocation

Acknowledgements

CRA acknowledges the contribution and support of several key partners in the preparation of this inaugural version of the Kenya County Fact Sheets.

First, the Commission acknowledges the contribution of the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), which is the official source of most data appearing in these Fact Sheets. Contributions from KNBS signal the beginning of a long term partnership in the generation and dissemination of comprehensive county-level data, and its application towards the formulation of sound policy decisions not only by the CRA, but also by other government and non-governmental organizations.

Secondly, CRA acknowledges support from the World Bank's Fiscal Decentralization Knowledge Program (FDKP). Launched in November 2010 with financial assistance from the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAid), FDKP is supporting the Kenya's Government to develop and implement the public finance provisions of the new Constitution. FDKP's main objective is to share evidence-based knowledge with Kenyan policy makers, consisting of international experiences with decentralization and also of data analysis on Kenya.

To all our other partners, we also say a hearty THANK YOU, and we look forward to your continued support and partnership.

Introduction

Immediately after the next General Elections, forty-seven County Governments will replace the Provincial and Local Government administration systems, which were created at independence. However, most of the data that is collected and compiled in Kenya today can be mapped to either districts or provinces, and very little has been done to date to re-map these data to the county level.

The Kenya County Fact Sheets seek precisely to fill this void and to start fleshing out the demographic, socio-economic and administrative contours of Kenya's future counties.

Anticipated users of these Fact Sheets include:

a) Public sector organizations that are now accelerating their planning for the transition and formulation of post-devolution policies;
b) Civil society organizations—the public, media, businesses—who need to engage knowledgeably with the National and the County Governments; and,
c) Development partners who will need to refocus their strategies and programs to the new administrative and service delivery environment.

Among other uses, the Fact Sheets will enable readers to (i) get a full picture of the main characteristics of each of Kenya's counties, and (ii) compare their performance across a wide range of indicators to the national average, or to the situation in other counties. This knowledge, ideally will guide policy, from the targeting of policies across space and interventions to laying the foundations of a county performance monitoring system.

The reader will find that the Fact Sheets reveal significant disparities across counties on many fronts—health and education outcomes, funding per capita and access to infrastructure and to services. In highlighting these disparities, the Fact Sheets might help to identify each county's immediate-, medium- and longer-term priorities for economic development and poverty reduction. They also constitute a useful baseline against which progress can be measured, as Counties come into existence and start taking increasing responsibility for service delivery at the local level.

Obviously, from the point of view of the CRA, this information will be a key input into our recommendations to Parliament on a revenue sharing formula, which will need to be transparent, rule-based and grounded into a solid assessment of county needs.

It is our hope that the Fact Sheets will inform public discourse and contribute to improved policy coordination between National and County Governments, among county governments and with non-governmental stake holders.

List of Abbreviations

CDF	Constituency Development Fund
CRA	Commission on Revenue Allocation
DDP	District Development Plan
DRC	District Roads Committee
FDKP	Fiscal Decentralization Knowledge Program
GoK	Government of Kenya
KIHBS	Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
KRB	Kenya Roads Board
KURA	Kenya Urban Roads Authority
LA	Local Authority
LATF	Local Authority Transfer Fund
MoH	Ministry of Health
REPLF	Rural Electrification Programme Levy Fund
RMLF	Road Maintenance Levy Fund
SBP	Single Business Permit
TFDG	Task Force on Devolved Government
WB	World Bank

Description of the Data and their Sources

DATA / VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION AND SOURCE
Population	The data on population and number of households are from the 2009 *Kenya Population and Housing Census Report* published in August 2010, by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS).
Surface area and density	Each Fact Sheet contains a map showing population density variations within each county, based on the number of districts in existence in December 2008. The information on density is based on the 2009 Census.
Poverty rate	County poverty data have been computed based on the *Kenya Integrated Household Baseline Survey (KIHBS)* district poverty estimates of 2005/06. County poverty rates are derived simply by dividing the total number of poor people in each county in 2005/06 by the total population in each county.
Urban population	This information is based on *2009 Census data* and includes "core urban" and "peri-urban" residents within towns having at least 2,000 inhabitants.
Health data	Data on immunization and on diseases i.e. malaria, TB and HIV have been obtained from the Division of Health Management Information Systems (HMIS). The data includes routine information collected on a monthly and annual basis from health facilities throughout the country. Health statistics shown in these Fact Sheets have been computed as follows: • **Fully-immunized population under 1 year** – This is the number of fully immunized children below the age of 1 year as a proportion of the overall population of children below the age of 1 year. • **Malaria (as % of all first outpatient visits)** – This computation reflects the malaria burden. It is based on "confirmed malaria cases" (not "clinical malaria") as a percentage of total first out-patient diseases (OPD) attendances at health facilities. • **TB in every 10,000 people** – This figure is the record of new cases of tuberculosis (TB) detected in every 10,000 people. • **HIV-positive ante-natal care clients** – This is the percentage of ante-natal care (ANC) clients tested for HIV at designated testing sites, whose results turn out to be positive.
Education data	The proportion of population with primary and secondary education is based on the 2009 Census.
Constituency Development Fund	These data are CDF actual allocations (2003/04 – 2008/09) and estimates (2009/10) for each of the 210 constituencies, which in turn are mapped to county boundaries. The data have been obtained from the CDF Board Website http://www.cdf.go.ke/ . Information on actual CDF spending or audited financial data was not available.
Local Authority Transfer Fund (LATF), Road Maintenance Levy Fund (RMLF), Single Business	These data have been obtained from *LATF Annual Report and Review of Local Authority Financial Performance* for the fiscal years 2007/08 and 2008/09. Taken together, LATF, SBP and Property taxes have constituted the lion's share of resources available to Kenya's Local Authorities. While the latter two might be taken as a rough indicator of the core of future

DATA / VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION AND SOURCE
Permit (SBP) and property rates	county own-source revenue streams, LATF might be used as an indicator of future needs of urban areas, and of the partial costs that could be faced by counties in delivering services.
Rural Electrification Programme Levy Fund (REPLF)	Data come from the Rural Electrification Authority (REA) and relate to approved (not actual) spending on rural electrification programmes for the period 2003/04 – 2008/09.
Access to improved water, improved sanitation and electricity	These data are generated from the 2009 Census, and present the proportion of Kenya households with access. Definitions for access to improved water and sanitation are based on the Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply and Sanitation by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF. Accordingly, improved water sources include well/borehole, piped and rain-harvested water; while, improved sanitation includes connection to a main sewer, septic tank and cesspool as well as ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrine and covered pit latrine.
Road Network	This data is generated from District Development Plans (DDP), and reflects the proportion of Kenya's classified road network that is paved, and in good or fair maintenance condition.
Service coverage	These estimates are generated based on the Kenya Integrated Household Budget Survey (KIHBS). 2005/06. • **Delivered in a health centre** – This is the proportion of children between the ages of 0 – 60 months who were reported to have been born in a health center i.e. hospital, clinic or maternity home. • **Qualified medical assistant during birth** – This is the proportion of children between the ages of 0 – 60 months whose births were assisted by a qualified medical personnel i.e. a doctor, midwife or nurse. • **Had all vaccinations** – This is the proportion of children between the ages of 12 – 60 months who had had all necessary vaccinations, specifically BCG, any dose of polio, any dose of DPT and measles. • **Adequate height for age** – This is the proportion of children between the ages of 6 – 60 months who were not below the adequate or recommended height for their respective ages. • **Can read & write** – This is the proportion of children between the ages of 10 – 14 years who could read and write. • **Attending School, 15-18 years** – This is the proportion of children between the ages of 15 – 18 years who were attending school (irrespective of the level) at the time of the survey.
Population and proportion of nationally registered voters in each constituency	Following promulgation of the current Constitution, the number of constituencies is to increase from 210 to 290. Since the process of distributing the 290 constituencies among the 47 counties has not been finalized, the constituency distribution shown in these Fact Sheets is based on the current 210 constituencies. Constituency populations are based on the 2009 Census, while county proportions of nationally registered voters is based on Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) records as per the 2010 Constitutional Referendum.