



Section B: General Demographic Characteristics

Introduction

A country's human resource is a critical factor of development. In 1942, when Kenya's first population census was undertaken, the size of the population was enumerated at 5.4 million people. Over the years, Kenya's population has continued to increase. Just before independence in 1962, the country's population was enumerated at 8.6 million. This grew to 10.9 million in 1969, 15.3 million in 1979, 21.4 million in 1989, 28.7 million in 1999 and 38.6 million in 2009.

During Kenya's sixth post-independence census, which was conducted in August 2019, the country's population was enumerated at 47.6 million. This population was composed of 23,548,056 males, 24,014,716 females and 1,524 inter-sex persons. Between 2009 and 2019, Kenya's population grew at 2.3 per cent annually resulting in an increase of 9 million people. During the same period, the proportion of the population below the age of 15 years declined from 43 to 39 per cent, indicating that the country's population was becoming less youthful.

47.6m

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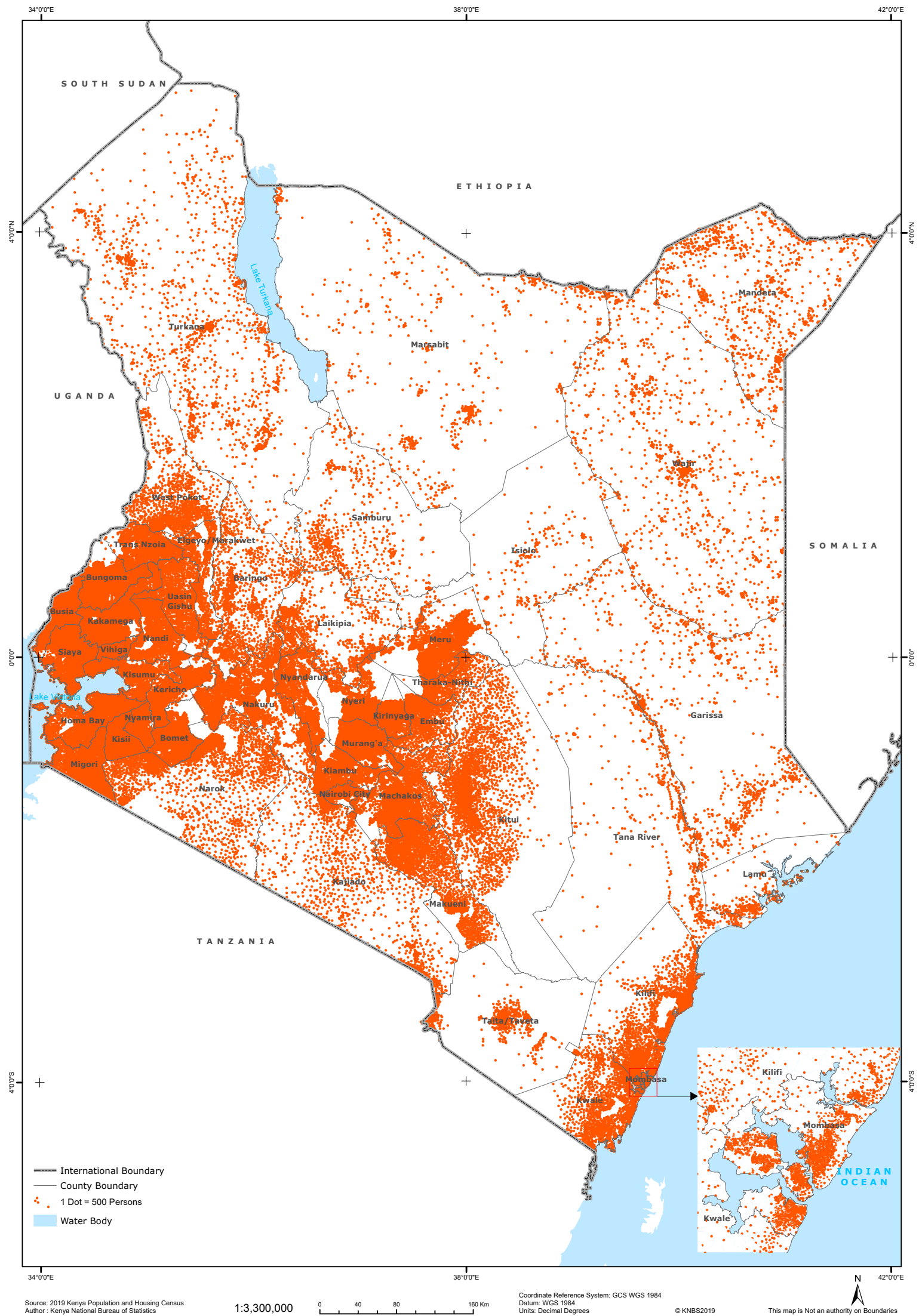
B.1: Population Distribution

Population distribution is the description of the spread of people across a geographical area. Maps B.1A and B.1B show the numerical spread of the population in Kenya based on the 2019 and 2009 KPHC respectively. One dot on the map represents 500 people. The maps show that counties in the Western, Nyanza and Central regions as

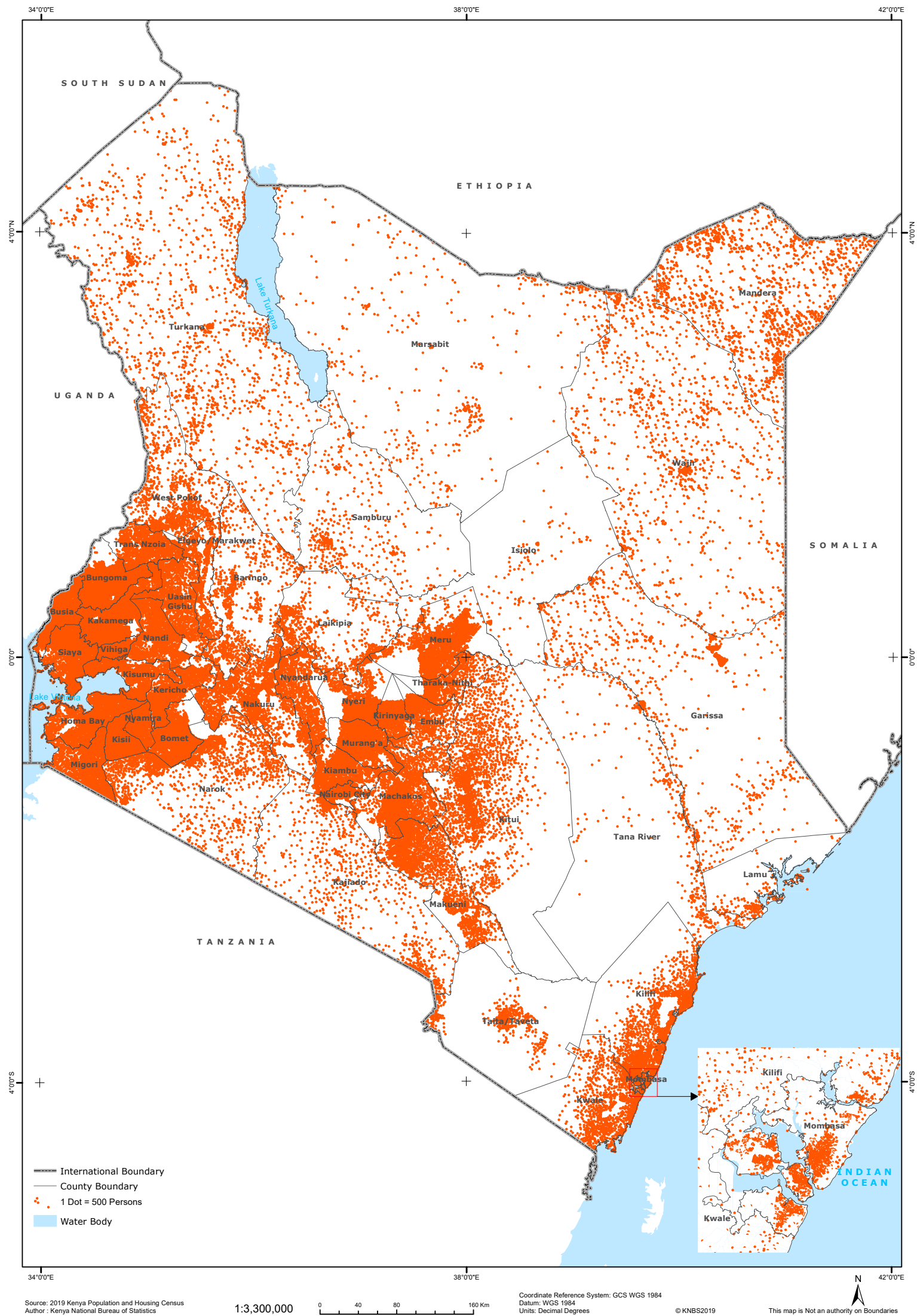
well as urban areas and the coastal strip of the country have the highest concentration of people. The Northern and Eastern parts of the country generally have a much lower concentration of people compared to the rest of the country.



Map B.1.A: 2019 KPHC Population Distribution by County



Map B.1B: 2009 KPHC Population Distribution by County





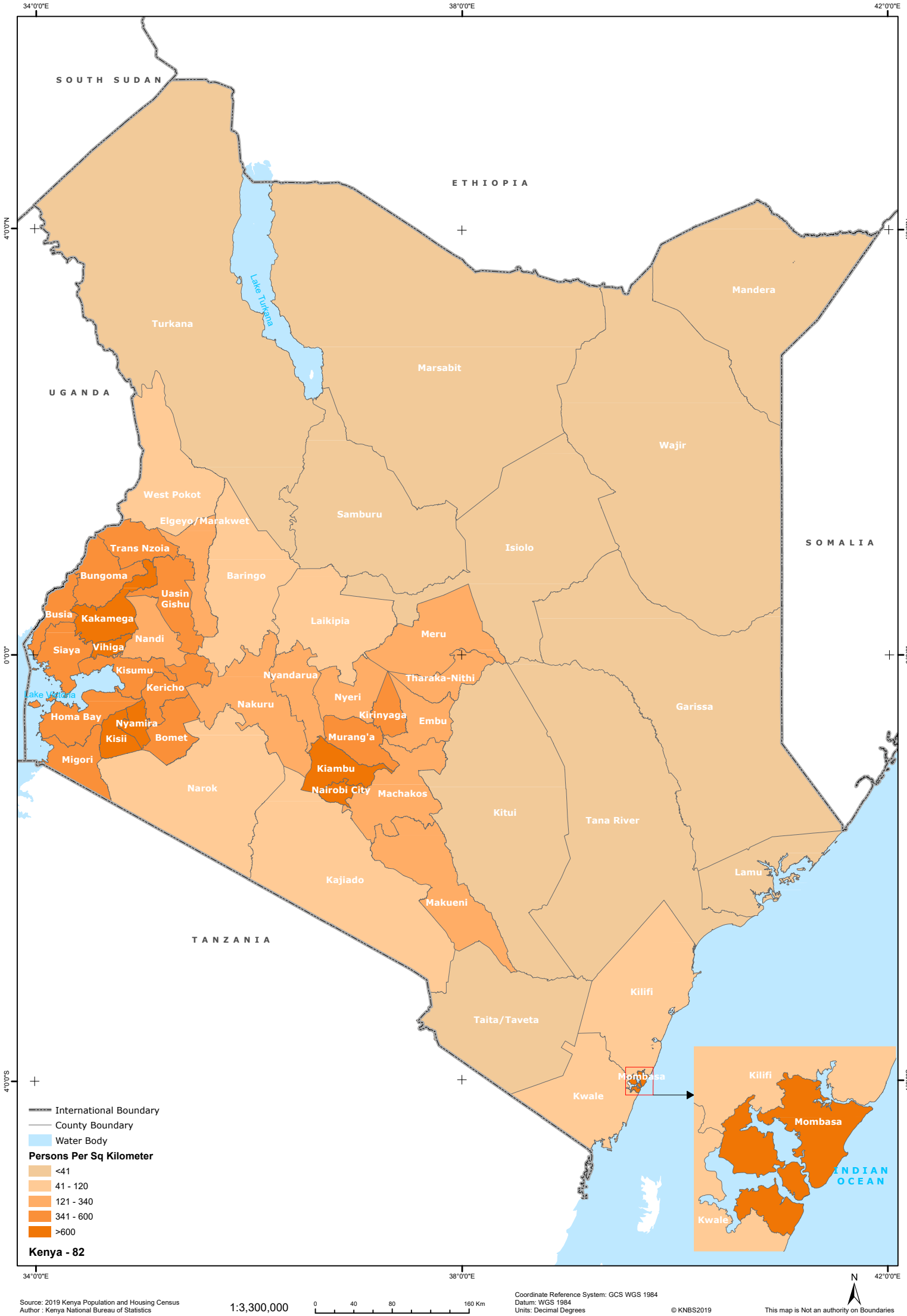
B.2: Population Density

Population density refers to the number of people in a defined jurisdiction in relation to the size of the area they occupy. It is calculated by dividing the number of people living in a particular region by its area. The density indicates where people are and how many people occupy a given area. As expected, population density is higher in urban areas as compared to rural areas.

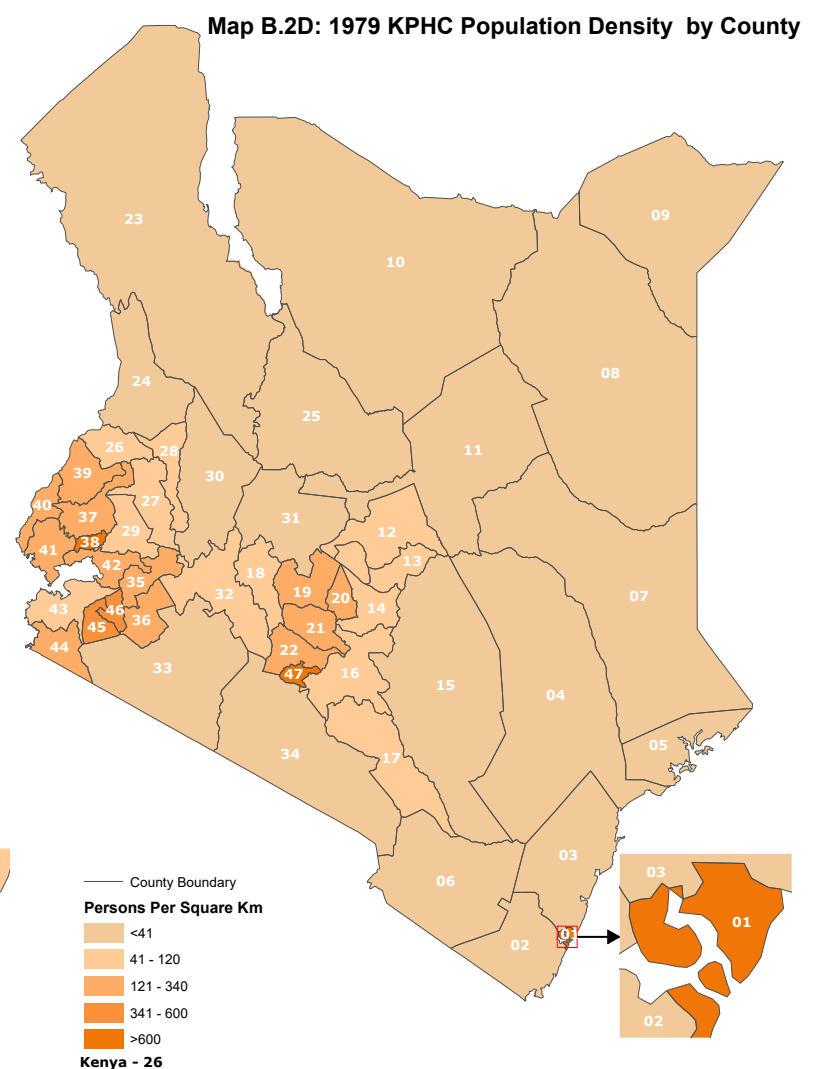
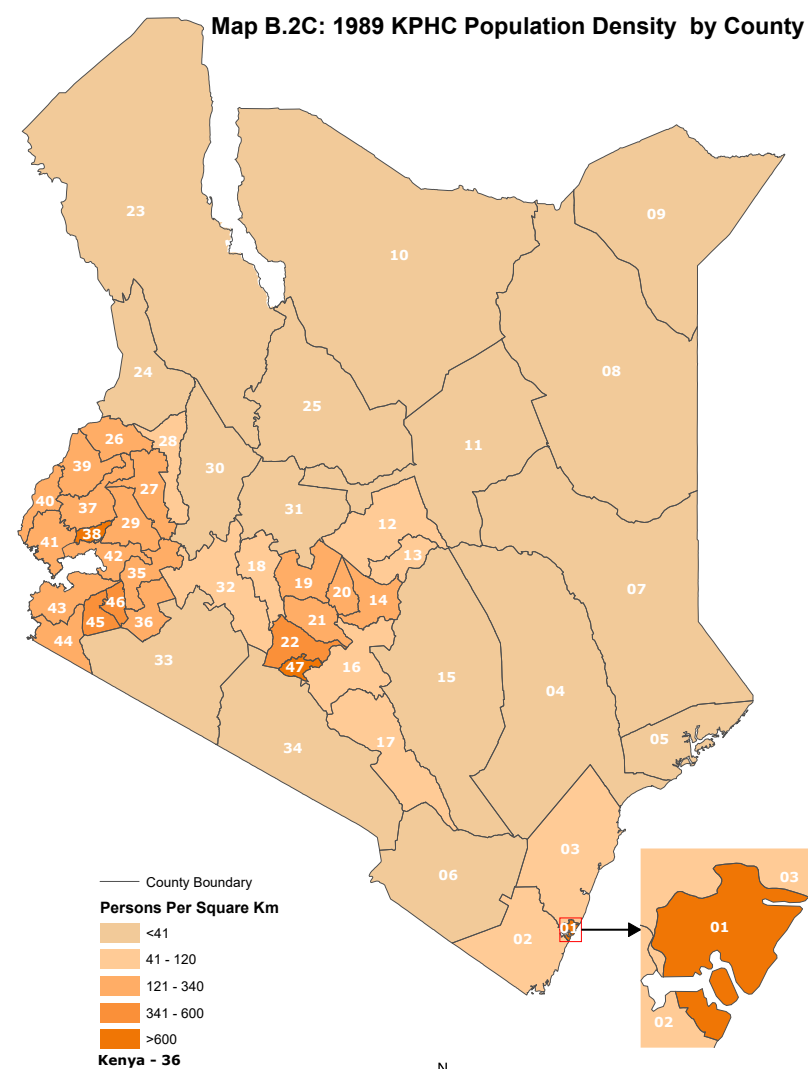
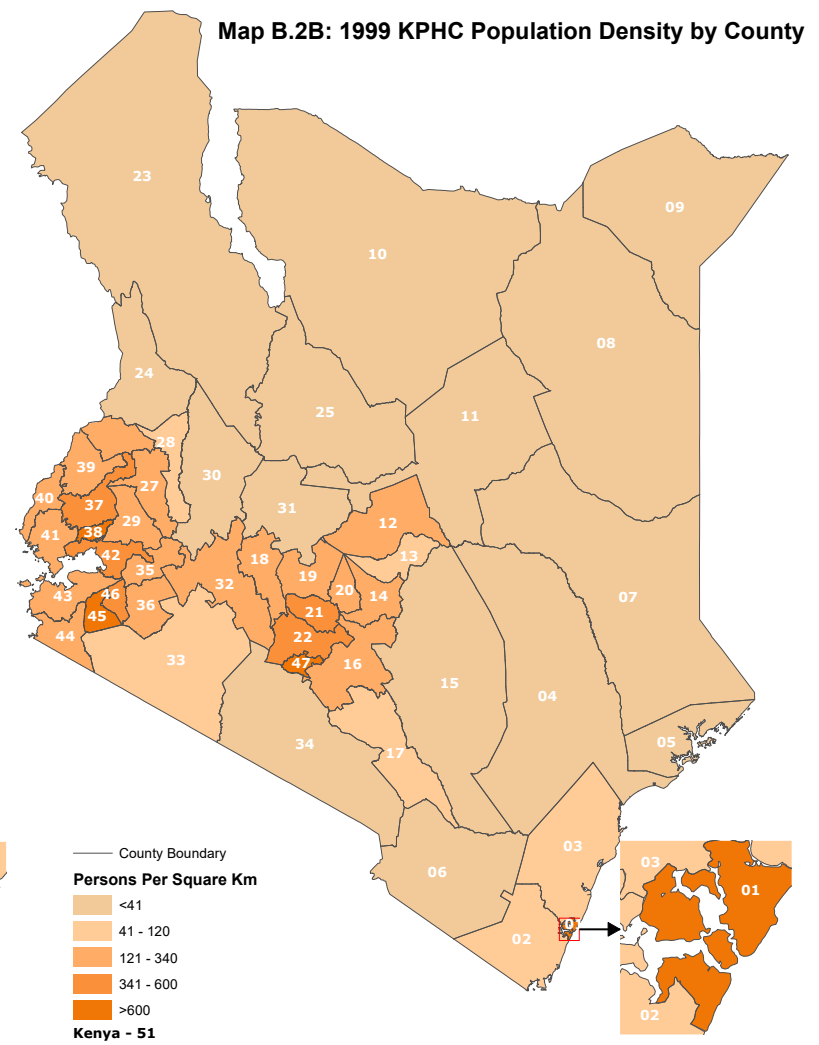
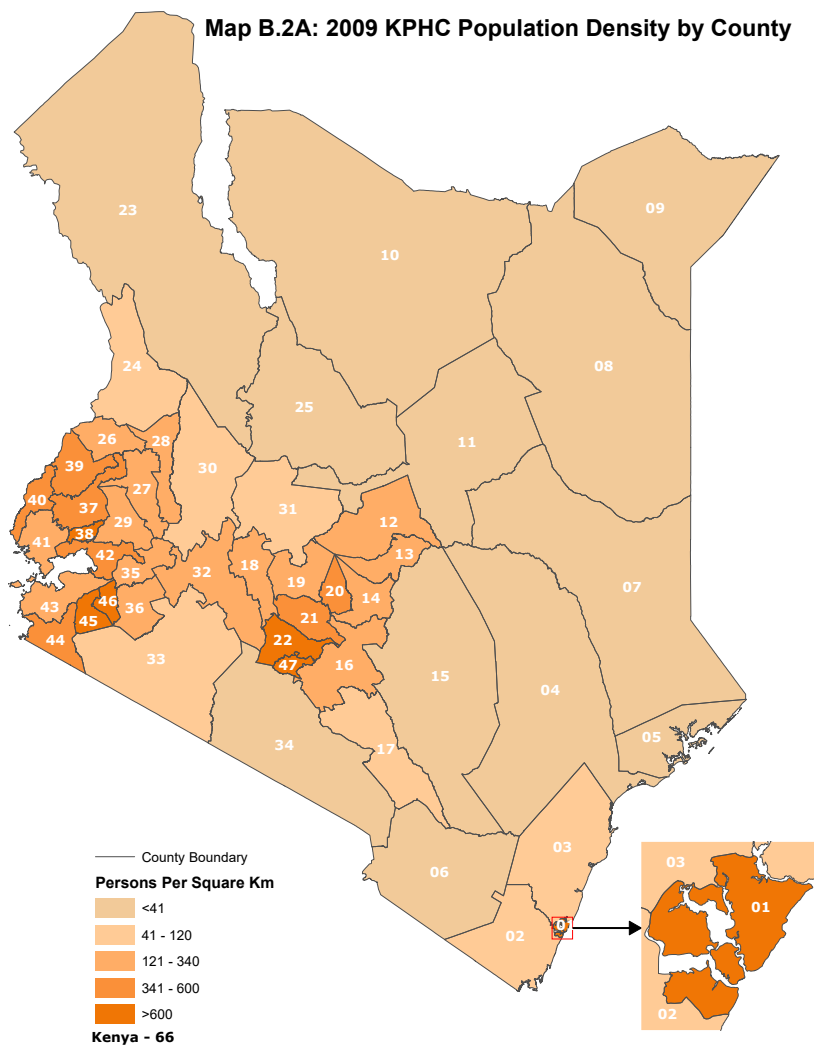
This section shows five density maps (B.2, B.2A, B.2B, B.2C and B.2D) for the years 2019, 2009, 1999, 1989 and 1979 respectively by county. The maps are compared to show population density for the last forty years.

In 2019, the counties with the highest population density, above 600 persons per km², were Nairobi City, Mombasa, Vihiga, Kisii, Kiambu, Nyamira and Kakamega. Unlike the other five counties, Nairobi City and Mombasa are purely urban. Nairobi City has remained the most densely populated county since 1979. On the other hand Marsabit, Tana River, Isiolo, Wajir, Turkana, Samburu, Garissa, Taita/ Taveta, Lamu, Mandera and Kitui counties have remained the least densely populated since 1979. Generally, Kenya is sparsely populated with a population density of 82 persons per sq. km. This information is vital and can be used to determine where services like health, water, housing, education and transportation are required in the future.

Map B.2: 2019 KPHC Population Density by County



Map B.2A: 2009 KPHC Population Density by County; Map B.2B 1999 KPHC Population Density by County; Map B.2C 1989 KPHC Population Density by County and Map B.2D 1979 KPHC Population Density by County



Datum: WGS 1984,
Units: Decimal Degrees
Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics 2019



0 90 180 360 Km

This Map is Not an Authority on Boundaries
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