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FACT SHEET

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KIAMBU COUNTY

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- Before the establishment of [colonial government](#) in Kiambu County, the hunter-gatherer Athi people settled in the area.
- The [Kikuyu](#) ethnic community settled in Kiambu County after the Athi people.
- Early settlers introduced a [policy](#) of land alienation.

LOCATION

- Kiambu County is [located](#) in central Kenya.
- Kiambu County's [total area](#) measures 2,453.5 square kilometers.
- Kiambu County is divided into [four topographical zones](#): Upper Highland, Lower Highland, the Upper Highland Zone and the Lower Midland Zone.

POPULATION

- Kiambu County's [population in 2019](#) was approximately 2.4 million.
- There are an [estimated 795,000 households](#) in Kiambu County.
- The [average household size](#) in Kiambu County is 3, lower than the Kenyan national average of 3.9 and tied for second lowest with Nyeri and Kirinyaga counties.
- Kiambu County's [population density in 2019](#) was 952 people per sq. km., the fourth largest of all Kenyan counties.
- 50.9% of Kiambu County's population is [female](#).

ECONOMY AND INDUSTRY

- 28% of Kiambu County's population has a secondary school [education level](#), according to the 2009 census.
- 88% of [households](#) in Kiambu County have roofs made from corrugated iron sheets.
- 50% of [households](#) in Kiambu County have floors made from concrete.
- 48% of [households](#) in Kiambu County have walls made from stone.
- The [unemployment rate](#) in Kiambu County is 17%.

-MORE-

- Several [industries](#) are located in the Thika and Ruiru constituencies, including oil, vehicle, pharmaceutical and chemical companies.
- The Limuru constituency is home to the Bata Shoe Factory, one of Kenya's [largest leather product producers](#).
- Agriculture is the [predominant industry](#) in Kiambu County.
- Coffee and tea are the county's [main cash crops](#), while livestock farming is also a significant industry,

HEALTH

- There are [108 health facilities](#) run by the Department of Health located in Kiambu County.
- Kiambu County has [24 health centers](#), known as Tier 3 facilities, in Kenya's five tier system.
- There is one [level five hospital](#) in the county: Kiambu Level Five in Kiambu Town.
- The [doctor/population ratio](#) is 1:17,000.
- The [nurse/population ratio](#) is 1:1,300
- The [average distance](#) to a health facility in Kiambu County is seven kilometers.
- 45.3% of Kiambu County residents have [piped water](#), about 1.5 times the average rate in Kenya.
- The [contraceptive prevalence rate](#) in Kiambu County is 74.1%.
- 93.4% of babies delivered in Kiambu County are [delivered](#) in a health facility.
- The [HIV prevalence rate](#) in Kiambu County is 5.6%, the sixth highest rate in Kenya.
- The majority of [new adult HIV](#) infections occur among people aged 15-24 years.
- The [fertility rate](#) in Kiambu County is 2.1.
- The average [life expectancy](#) for men is 62.8 and 63.6 for women.
- HIV/AIDS is the [leading cause of death](#) in Kiambu County, followed by stroke and tuberculosis.
- Malnutrition and unsafe sex are the [two largest risk factors](#) driving death and disability in Kiambu County.

POLITICS

- Kiambu County adopted a new [constitution](#) in 2010.
- Like other counties in Kenya, Kiambu County operates a [devolved system](#) of government, whereby the governor is the executive authority in the county.
- James Karanja Nyoro is the [governor](#) of Kiambu County.
- Approximately 1.18 million people were [registered](#) to vote in Kiambu County in 2017.
- Kiambu County's [voting population](#) make up less than 10% of registered voters in Kenya.