



GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE

MONTHLY PRESS RELEASE



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No. 06 March 2024

Over a quarter of a million households indiscriminately dump their solid waste

Census statistics provide insight on waste management on the International Day of Zero Waste

Over a quarter of a million (276,515) households in occupied dwelling units reported disposing of their solid waste by indiscriminate dumping during the 2021 Population and Housing Census (PHC). An additional quarter of a million households (259,533) buried their solid waste in the ground, and 1.9 million households burned their waste.

The practice of indiscriminately dumping solid waste was highest in the Savannah (14.4%) and Upper West (13.7%) regions. About half (49.0%) of households in the Upper East Region disposed of their solid waste by burning which was the highest recorded followed by the North East Region (38.8%). These two regions – Upper East and North East, also had the highest percentage of households that buried their waste in the ground: 11.1 and 7.6 percent respectively.

In all, 2.4 million households representing three in every 10 (29.1%) households did not have their waste collected. Waste collection refers to disposal via compaction trucks, other vehicles, tricycles, central containers, push carts, walk-in attendants, bicycles, wheelbarrows, public dumps, or open spaces. More than half of the households in the Upper East (65.3%) and North East (53.6%) regions did not have their solid waste collected, the highest percentages recorded.

Almost a million (930,419) households did not have a receptacle to store their solid waste. This represents about one in every 10 (11.2%) households nationally. More than a quarter of households in the Upper East (27.2%) and Upper West (26.6%) regions did not have a receptacle to store their solid waste. In all, six regions had one-fifth or more of their households without a waste receptacle.

International Day of Zero Waste is commemorated annually on 30th March to promote the improvement of waste management and sustainable production and consumption.

Disaggregated data on the storage and disposal of waste from the 2021 Population and Housing Census (PHC) can be accessed from the GSS StatsBank (<https://statsbank.statsghana.gov.gh/>). The 2021 PHC General Report Volume 3M: Water

and Sanitation which provides information on wastewater disposal and solid waste management at the household level is available to download from www.census2021.statsghana.gov.gh

About the Ghana Statistical Service

The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) provides comprehensive, reliable, quality, relevant, accurate, and timely statistical information to guide national development as stipulated in Section 3 of the Statistical Service Act, 2019 (Act 1003). The organisation's vision is to be a trusted provider of official statistics for good governance and its mission being the efficient collection, production, management, and dissemination of quality official statistics based on international standards, using competent and motivated staff for evidence-based decision-making, in support of national development.

The Statistical Service produces monthly and quarterly data on important economic indicators such as inflation, Consumer Price Index, Producer Price Index, and Gross Domestic Product. GSS also regularly generates periodic population, housing, demographic, and economic data at the locality, district, and national levels from routine surveys and censuses. The statistics generated by GSS can be utilised by a wide cross-section of users including the public sector, businesses, academia, civil society organisations, and development partners. For more information visit www.statsghana.gov.gh.