



# GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE

# MONTHLY PRESS RELEASE



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## **Malaria prevalence for children in the lowest quintile two times the national rate**

*Latest GDHS provides statistics on malaria prevalence and prevention*

**The prevalence of malaria according to microscopy for children under 5 years in the lowest wealth quintile (16.0%) is almost twice the national average (8.6%), and about 20 times that of children in the highest wealth quintile (0.8%).** These statistics emanate from the 2022 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey (GDHS).

**Children whose mothers have no education (13.3%) and primary education (14.2%) had a prevalence that was more than twice that of children whose mothers have secondary (5.6%) and higher (0.9%) education.**

At least one in every ~~five-ten~~ children or more children tested positive for malaria in half of the 16 regions. **The Oti Region (15.0%) recorded the highest malaria prevalence according to microscopy followed by Upper West (13.4%) and Upper East (12.2%).** The lowest prevalence was recorded in the Greater Accra (2.0%) and Western North (4.4%) regions.

**Nationally, about half (54.2%) of children under 5 years either slept under an insecticide-treated net (49.0%) or in a dwelling sprayed with indoor residual spraying (6.7%) in the 12 months preceding the survey.** In all, five regions had less than half of children under 5 years who slept under an insecticide-treated net or in a dwelling sprayed with indoor residual spraying. **The highest percentage was recorded in the Upper West (97.0%) and North East (91%) regions while Greater Accra (32.4%) and Ashanti (45.7%) regions had the lowest percentage.**

World Malaria Day is commemorated annually on 25<sup>th</sup> April to promote malaria prevention and control. The theme for 2024 is 'Time to deliver zero malaria: invest, innovate, implement'.

The 2022 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey report, resources, and microdata are available to download at no cost from [www.statsghana.gov.gh](http://www.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 public sector, businesses, academia, civil society organisations and development partners. For more information visit [www.statsghana.gov.gh](http://www.statsghana.gov.gh).