



GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE

2021 Population and Housing Census

Press Release

General Report Volumes 3A, 3B and 3C



www.census2021.statsghana.gov.gh

18th November 2021

Today, 18th November 2021, Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) releases highlights from the first three volumes of the 2021 Population and Housing Census (PHC) General Report which presents the main census results.

Key Takeaways

1. The opportunity to invest in harnessing the demographic dividend is now
2. Marked variations at all levels – region, district, and urban-rural, with variations more intense between urban and rural areas
3. Significantly high incidence of unregistered marriages
4. Population growth rate in urban areas requires multisectoral effort to improve living conditions of people in both rural and urban areas
5. Consideration of implications of the decline in household sizes (welfare, housing, environment etc.)

Highlights of Results

Volume 3A

1. Ghana's population is 30,832,019.
2. Greater Accra, Ashanti, Eastern, and Central Region have more than 50 percent of the population.
3. Urban population increased nationally from 50.9% in 2010 to 56.7% in 2021 with almost half (47.8%) the increase in the urban population in Greater Accra and Ashanti regions.
4. Annual intercensal population growth rate between 2010 and 2021 is 2.1 percent, the lowest since independence and varies from 3.7 percent in the Northern Region to 1.0 percent in the Eastern Region.
5. Average household size decreased between 2010 and 2021 in both urban (from 4.1 to 3.3) and rural (from 5.0 to 4.0) areas.

Volume 3B

1. Nationally, females outnumber males by 431,139 however, males outnumber females in six regions (Western North, Western, Ahafo, Oti, Savannah and Bono East)
2. Ghana's population age structure is transitioning from one dominated by children (0-14 years) to one dominated by youth (15-35 years)
3. A higher concentration of youth population is in the urban areas.
4. A total of 17,931,673 (58.2%) of Ghana's population are 18 years and older.
5. A total of 18,619,021 (60.4%) of Ghana's population are within the working age bracket of 15 – 64 years.

Volume 3C

1. One percent (294,341) of enumerated population are non-Ghanaians and nine out of 10 non-Ghanaian population (270,838– 92.0%) are from ECOWAS countries.
2. One out of every eight (80.8%) married persons have not registered their marriages.
3. Substantially more women than men are separated, divorced or widowed.
4. Majority of persons were born in the localities where they were enumerated with a higher proportion for males (73.6%) than females (71.6%).
5. Approximately two-thirds (68.6%) of the population have health insurance coverage with higher coverage for females (72.6%) than males (64.5%).

About the 2021 Population and Housing Census

The 2021 Population and Housing Census (PHC), Ghana's first fully digital census, employed technology in all aspects of its implementation. It leveraged on technology available to improve operational efficiency, enhance the quality of the data collected and be able to release the main results in a timely manner. To understand more about the uniqueness of the 2021 PHC, download [the basics of the census document](#) and the [pre-release fact sheets](#). For more information on the previous 2021 PHC results release, download the press releases on the [Preliminary Report](#) and the [Residential Proximity to Essential Service Facilities](#).

Scope of the General Report

The 2021 PHC General Report contains disaggregated data on the main census results and features 11 volumes presenting findings from the different modules of the census questionnaires. The General Report will be released in multiple instalments starting with Volumes 3A, 3B and 3C on 18th November 2021. Volume 3A, Population of Administrative Units, presents population size, sex composition and population density by region, district, and type of locality (urban/rural). Volume 3B presents statistics on age and sex profile by region, and type of locality. Volume 3C presents background (socio-demographic) characteristics on the population by region, and type of locality.

These reports will present important disaggregated data for research, policy, and planning in line with census aim of generating relevant and timely data for decision-making. Disaggregated data, such as presented in the General Report, are critical to identifying vulnerable populations in order to ensure that no one is left behind as is the premise of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

2021 PHC General Report

- Volume 3A: Population of Regions and Districts
- Volume 3B: Age and Sex Composition
- Volume 3C: Background Characteristics
- Volume 3D: Literacy and Education
- Volume 3E: Economic Activities
- Volume 3F: Difficulties in Performing Activities
- Volume 3G: Information and Communication Technology
- Volume 3H: Fertility and Mortality
- Volume 3K: Housing Characteristics
- Volume 3M: Sanitation Facilities
- Volume 3N: Structures

District Rankings

District Rank	District	Region	Total Population
1	Ashanti	Kumasi Metropolitan	443,981
2	Greater Accra	Kpone Katamanso	417,334
3	Northern	Tamale Metropolitan	374,744
4	Greater Accra	Ga South	350,121
5	Northern	Sagnarigu Municipal	341,711
257	Eastern	Birim South	35,654
258	Ashanti	Sekyere Afram Plains	32,640
259	Volta	Akatsi North	32,541
260	Oti	Guan	28,238
261	Bono	Banda	28,179

District Rank	Region	District	Percent Female
1	Central	Gomoa West	54.0%
2	Central	Mfantsiman	54.0%
3	Volta	South Tongu	54.0%
4	Central	Ekumfi	54.0%
5	Volta	Akatsi North	53.0%
257	Bono East	Sene East	47.0%
258	Ashanti	Akrofuom	47.0%
259	Eastern	Kwahu Afram Plains North	47.0%
260	Ashanti	Sekyere Afram Plains North	46.0%
261	Western North	Suaman	46.0%

District Rank	Region	District	Household Size
1	North East	East Mamprusi	6.8
2	North East	Yunyoo Nasuan	6.7
3	Savannah	Central Gonja	6.6
4	North East	Chereponi	6.3
5	Northern	Tolon	6.3
257	Central	Cape Coast South	2.8
258	Greater Accra	Accra Metropolitan	2.8
259	Greater Accra	Ayawaso West Municipal	2.7
260	Eastern	New Juaben South	2.7
261	Greater Accra	Korle Klottey	2.5

District Rank	Region	District	Persons per km sq
1	Greater Accra	Ayawaso North Municipal	33,583
2	Ashanti	Old Tafo Municipal	20,880
3	Greater Accra	Ablekuma Central Municipal	19,116
4	Greater Accra	Ayawaso Central Municipal	16,759
5	Greater Accra	Ayawaso East	16,498
257	Bono	Banda	14
258	Savannah	West Gonja	14
259	Savannah	North Gonja	13
260	Savannah	North East Gonja	12
261	Ashanti	Sekyere Afram Plains	9

Region	Least Populous District	Population	Most Populous District	Population
Ahafo	Asutifi South	68,394	Asunafo North Municipal	150,198
Ashanti	Sekyere Afram Plains	32,640	Kumasi Metropolitation	443,981
Bono	Banda	28,179	Sunyani Municipal	193,595
Bono East	Nkoranza North	56,468	Techiman Municipal	243,335
Central	Ekumfi	56,741	Gomoa East	308,697
Eastern	Birim South	35,654	Nsawam Adoagyiri Municipal	155,597
Greater Accra	Ayawaso East Municipal	53,004	Kpone Katamanso	417,334
North East	Yunyoo-Nasuan	56,879	East Mamprusi Municipal	188,006
Northern	Nanton	50,767	Tamale Metropolitan	374,744
Oti	Guan	28,238	Nkwanta South	135,936
Savannah	North East Gonja	39,404	Central Gonja	142,762
Upper East	Builsa South	36,575	Bawku West	144,189
Upper West	Daffiama Bussie	38,754	Wa Municipal	200,672
Volta	Akatsi North	32,541	Ketu South	253,122
Western	Mpohor	52,473	Prestea/Huni Valley	229,301
Western North	Suaman	38,268	Sefwi Bibiani Ahwiaso Bekwai	167,971

Region	District with Lowest Percent of Females	Percent Female	District with Highest Percent of Females	Percent Female
Ahafo	Asunafo South	48.8%	Tano South	50.7%
Ashanti	Sekyere Afram Plains	46.4%	Suame Municipal	52.4%
Bono	Dormaa West	46.7%	Berekum East Municipal	52.8%
Bono East	Sene East	46.7%	Techiman Municipal	51.2%
Central	Upper Denkyira West	47.1%	Gomoa West	54.1%
Eastern	Kwahu Afram Plains North	46.6%	Lower Manya Krobo Municipal	53.4%
Greater Accra	Ayawaso West Municipal	48.7%	Accra Metropolitan	52.8%
North East	Mamprugu Moagduri	50.5%	East Mamprusi Municipal	51.5%
Northern	Kumbungu	50.0%	Karaga	51.3%
Oti	Kadjebi	48.8%	Nkwanta North	50.3%
Savannah	Bole	48.3%	Sawla-Tuna-Kalba	53.0%
Upper East	Talensi	49.6%	Bongo	52.7%
Upper West	Wa East	49.0%	Jirapa	52.9%
Volta	Kpando Municipal	50.0%	South Tongu	53.6%
Western	Wassa Amenfi Central	46.9%	STMA-Essikado Ketan	51.9%
Western North	Suaman	46.2%	Sefwi Bibiani Ahwiaso Bekwai	50.7%

Ten Headline Population Figures

No.	Categories	Persons
1.	Total Population	30,832,019 (100.0%)
2.	Population in Urban Areas	17,472,530 (56.7%)
3.	Population in Rural Areas	13,359,489 (43.3%)
4.	Population of Females	15,631,579 (50.7%)
5.	Population of Males	15,200,440 (49.3%)
6.	Population of children (0 – 14 years)	10,890,453 (35.3%)
7.	Population of working age (15 – 64 years)	18,619,021 (60.4%)
8.	Population of elderly (65+ years)	1,322,545 (4.3%)
9.	Population of youth (15 – 35 years)	11,782,614 (38.2%)
10.	Population of persons 18+ years	17,931,673 (58.2%)

Data Quality

The 2021 PHC instituted several data quality monitoring mechanisms and leveraged technology to implement interventions towards ensuring complete and accurate coverage. These included the use of GIS technology and geospatial resources, such as collecting the GPS coordinates of all structures, use of census dashboard for real-time monitoring and continuous data validation by Data Quality Monitors at the various levels of operations.

These strategies made it possible to continuously assess data quality and correct errors and inconsistencies while enumerators were still on the field. The approach, and with public sensitisation programmes, created an alert, enthusiastic and proactive public leading to avoidance of duplications and omissions as well as eliminating fabrications. Learn more about the 2021 PHC data quality assurance process in our [pre-release fact sheet](#).

The [technical documentation](#) on the enumeration and data quality assurance procedures are available under the instruments and training materials section of the census website.

Data Confidentiality

Only aggregated data are reported in the General Report and is the norm for the rest of the results in accordance with the [Statistical Service Act, 2019 \(Act 1003\)](#) which places a legal restriction on publishing particulars on individuals. All personal details are protected and removed from all publications and datasets to protect the confidentiality of respondents.

Upcoming 2021 PHC Product Releases

Information on upcoming releases and data products are available in the 2021 PHC Product Release calendar which can be downloaded [here](#). To learn more about the indicators to be presented in subsequent releases, download the [100 uses of census data document](#), the [information sheet on the census questionnaires](#) and the full questionnaires [online](#).

Accessing the Data

The General Report Volumes 3A to 3B can be downloaded at no cost from the 2021 PHC website: www.census2021.statsghana.gov.gh.

About the Ghana Statistical Service

The conduct of the 2021 Population and Housing Census is in accordance with the mandates of the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) to provide 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 statistical services for good governance and its mission to lead the efficient production and management of quality official statistics based on international standards, using competent staff for evidence-based decision-making, in support of national development.

GSS also produces monthly data on important economic indicators such as inflation, Consumer Price Index (CPI), and Producer Price Index as well as 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 on the statistics generated by GSS visit www.statsghana.gov.gh