

## Ghana

### General

	MALES	FEMALES	YEAR
Total population under 15	5,164,505	5,113,353	2017
Total population over 15	8,107,079	8,523,493	2017

*\* ALL DATA FROM CIA, 2017*

### Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live birth	319	2015 est.	CIA, 2017
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (male)	40.2	2016 est.	CIA, 2017
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (female)	32.2	2016 est.	CIA, 2017
Under-five mortality rate for males per 1,000 live births	68	2012	UN Statistics, 2015
Under-five mortality rate for females per 1,000 live births	56	2012	UN Statistics, 2015
Births attended by a skilled health professional	74	2014	WHO, 2016
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged 15–49	1.6	2015	WHO, 2017
Life expectancy for men	64.1	2016 est.	CIA, 2017
Life expectancy for women	69.1	2016 est.	CIA, 2017

### Education

	MALES	FEMALES	YEAR
Youth literacy rate, ages 15-24	91.32%	89.85%	2015
Adult literacy rate, ages 15+	82.03%	71.35%	2015
Net enrolment rate in primary education	91.11%	91.33%	2015
Gross enrolment ratio in secondary education	71.04%	69.13%	2015
Gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education	18.75%	13.02%	2015

*\* ALL DATA FROM UNESCO INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS, 2017*

- Female graduates from tertiary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 74.9%
- Female students in engineering, construction and manufacturing tertiary education programs (2010) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 10.9%
- Female teachers in primary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 88.6%
- Female teachers in secondary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 70.9%

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- Female teachers in tertiary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2017): Insufficient data

### Economic Activity

- Males over 15 who are active in the labour force (2014) (UN Data, 2017): 78.4%
- Females over 15 who are active in the labour force (2014) (UN Data, 2017): 75.3%

### Decision-Making

- Proportion of seats held by women in National Parliament (2016) (World Bank, 2017): 11

### Human Rights

- Girls married before 15 (UNICEF, 2016): 5%
- Females married by 18 (UNICEF, 2016): 21%
- Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2012): 23%
- Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner or a non-partner in the last 12 months (UN Women, 2012): 20%

## Gender and Development Trends in Ghana

In May of 2015 Ghana's Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Policy, introduced a plan to mainstream gender equity and women's empowerment into Ghana's development ("National Gender Policy," 2015). Key challenges to gender equality were cited as: competing government priorities, weak gender mainstreaming, the feminisation of poverty, socio-cultural beliefs, violence against women, and inadequate social services, amongst other things (p. 16).

### Health

The European Union (EU) has allocated 14.6 million (EUR 3.3 million) to Ghana as a fourth and final disbursement, in support of the 2016/17 Millennium Acceleration Framework (MAF) operational plan implemented by the Ministry of Health.

Prevalence of HIV among women in Ghana aged 15–49 is nearly double that for men of the same age (2.0% versus 1.3%).

A 2017 World Bank Review of its partnership with Ghana, indicates gaps in healthcare access across gender, geography, and income streams, with improved maternal health and improved access to sanitation and water, described as key priorities ("Performance and Learning Review," 2017). The same report notes "implementation progress towards these targets is currently behind schedule, especially for urban water and rural sanitation" (p. 13).

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### Education

In 2013, the Ghana Education Service implemented the Girls Participatory Approaches to Students Success (PASS) program, with funding provided by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) to hasten attainment of gender parity in schools. Approximately 55,000 girls across Ghana will be funded by the PASS program, although the report noted problems with procuring and distributing scholarship packages (Ministry of Education, "Educational Sector Performance," 2015).

The report found that retention rates for primary students increased from 82% in 2013/14, to 86% in 2015/16 (Ministry of Education, "Educational Sector Performance," 2015: 11).

### Economy

Though Ghana's population of female entrepreneurs is larger than its male counterpart, a 2014 report found that female businesses tend to be micro enterprises, which are largely concentrated in the informal sector. Consequently, this group of women is more likely to experience difficulty accessing technology and public services (such as electricity), as well as credit (Owusu, Quartey, and Bawakyillenuo, 2014).

### Governance

Women are underrepresented in both local and national parliament, representing a marginal 10.9% of the total number of Members of Parliament; this is also reflected at the local and district level (UNDP, 2016).

### Human Rights

A 2017 UNAIDS story reports that widows are among the poorest women in Ghana—their poverty is linked to the deprivation of their rights and lack of access to justice through discriminatory customs, traditions and religious codes. As a result, widows may lose land and possessions and are evicted from their homes once they lose their spouse ("Ghana – Addressing the Barrier of Stigma..." 2017).

## Ghana SDG Progress Profile

- Ghana is currently ranked 104<sup>th</sup> for overall performance under the SDGs, with a median rank of 94<sup>th</sup>.
- Ghana has ranked 139<sup>th</sup> in the UN's 2015 Gender Inequality Index (GII) (UNDP, 2015).
- On 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016, H.E. President John Drama Mahama launched the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Ghana. Mahama was appointed co-Chair of 16 Eminent Advocates by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, to assist in the campaign to achieve the SDGs (United Nations in Ghana, 2015).

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### **SDG 4: Achieve universal access to affordable and quality education at all levels.** (Data retrieved from SDG indicator profiles, 2016)

- Expected years of schooling (years): 11.5 (significant challenges remain)
- Literacy rate of 15-24 years old (%): 85.7 (significant challenges remain)
- Net primary school enrolment rate (%): 88.9 (major challenges must be overcome)

### **SDG 5: Achieve gender equality, protect and empower women, the youth and persons in vulnerable situations.**

(Data retrieved from SDG indicator profiles, 2016)

- Women in national parliaments (%): 10.9 (major challenges must be overcome)
- Female years of schooling (% male): 71 (major challenges must be overcome)
- Female labor force participation (% male): 94 (SDG threshold met)
- Unmet demand for contraceptives (%): 63.9 (major challenges must be overcome)

A mixed-methods, nationwide study relating to domestic and intimate partner violence in Ghana, found that 27.7% of women and 20% of men in Ghana experienced at least one type of domestic violence in a twelve-month period over 2014/15 (Institute of Development Studies, 2016). Major contributions to ongoing violence were found to be: social or cultural norms, self-defense, dispute resolution, claims to autonomy or agency (in the case of female-male violence), violence in childhood, low assets/poverty, and lack of education (pp. 17-18).

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