



# GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE MONTHLY PRESS RELEASE



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## **One in every 10 adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 years have had a live birth**

*Ghana Statistical Service shares statistics on adolescent childbearing on International Day of the Girl*

Statistics from the 2022 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey (GDHS) indicate that **one in every 10 (10.9%) adolescents aged 15 to 19 years have ever had a live birth**. The percentage of adolescents that have had a live birth increases with age, with 19-year-olds recording the highest rate of almost a quarter (23.8%).

**In 10 out of the 16 regions, more than 10 percent of adolescents 15 to 19 years have had a live birth with the Bono East Region recording the highest, thus, one in every five (19.1%) girls in this age range having had a live birth**. The Savannah (17.5%) and the North East (17.5%) regions are tied for the second highest followed by the Ashanti Region (16.8%). The Greater Accra Region (5.4%) has the lowest percentage and is the only region to record a figure less than half the national average.

**The percentage of girls 15 to 19 years old that have had a live birth is almost twice in rural areas (14.4%) compared to urban (8.0%).**

**More than a quarter (26.5%) of adolescent girls with no education had had a live birth compared to 20.3 percent of those with primary education**. The percentage of girls with secondary education (8.6%) who had a live birth was less than half of those with primary or no education.

**Adolescent girls in households in the lowest wealth quintile (17.5%) had the highest percentage with a live birth, more than four times the figure recorded for girls in the highest wealth quintile (3.7%).**

**About one in every 10 (9.1%) adolescents aged 15 to 19 years had been in a marital union during the 2021 Population and Housing Census**: 5.5 percent were currently married, 3.2 percent were currently in informal unions or living with a partner, and 0.4 percent had formerly been married.

International Day of the Girl is celebrated annually on 11<sup>th</sup> October to highlight challenges such as early marriage and childbearing, and deprivation of education that prevent young girls from reaching their full potential. The theme for 2023 is "Invest in Girls' Rights: Our Leadership, Our Well-being".

The 2022 GDHS Key Indicators Report can be downloaded from [www.statsghana.gov.gh](http://www.statsghana.gov.gh). Disaggregated statistics on girls can be accessed directly from the [GSS StatsBank](#).

## **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 (CPI), Producer Price Index (PPI), and Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The 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 on the statistics generated by GSS visit [www.statsghana.gov.gh](http://www.statsghana.gov.gh).

GSS for the first time has developed an online database for accessing disaggregated census statistics. The StatsBank is an innovative and user-friendly results dissemination method that allows users to generate customised tables and maps at the national, and sub-national levels at no cost. The StatsBank is also a repository for macroeconomic indicators and, in the long term, will provide data on other censuses and surveys. The StatsBank is accessible from: <https://statsbank.statsghana.gov.gh>. The Census Atlas has been built atop the StatsBank to showcase district-level indicators using percentages instead of absolute numbers. Discover more at: <https://phc-geospatial-results.netlify.app/>. GSS has also transformed population and housing census data into statistics with a 1000m-by-1000m resolution, allowing users to quickly profile any geographic area in Ghana. These rasterized statistics transcend administrative boundaries and allow for small area analyses. Dive into this rasterized data at: <https://geospatial.statsghana.gov.gh/>.