



GHANA 2021 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS INFORMATION SHEET FOR THE MEDIA

Overview

Ghana is preparing to conduct its first fully digital Population and Housing Census (PHC), with data collection scheduled for June to July 2021. For more information on the unique features of the 2021 PHC, download the Basics of the Census document under the resources section of the census website <https://census2021.statsghana.gov.gh/>. The unique features of the 2021 PHC will ensure collection of quality and policy relevant data and rapid release of user-friendly results (for more information on the unique features of the 2021 PHC, download the Basics of the Census document also under the resources section of the Census website).

The 2021 PHC is being implemented in accordance with the United Nations Principles and Recommendations for 2020 round of PHCs.

Key Innovations of the 2021 PHC

1. Use of tablets and interactive maps for data collection. Data will be synced daily and directly from the field to the servers to reduce data processing times and facilitate timely release of results.
2. Taking of GPS coordinates of every structure in the country.
3. Advanced real-time data quality assurance procedures including institution of District Data Quality Management Teams (DDQMT) and use of an enumeration tracking dashboard to ensure complete and accurate data.
4. Expansion of the census agenda to include comprehensive information in key areas to support the tracking of national and international development goals.
5. Included geospatial data resources in the planning and implementation of the 2021 PHC.
6. End-to-end encryption of data transmission to assure data security and safety.

Key Achievements

The following are some of the key achievements made so far with regards to Ghana 2021 Census:

1. Delineated the entire country into 51,916 Enumeration Areas to facilitate complete coverage and compilation of a list of 131,739 localities across the country.
2. Recruited approximately 80,000 census officials using a free online application portal.
3. Trained, both virtually and face-to-face, three levels of Trainers (Master, National and Regional) and 0District Data Quality Management Teams (DDQMT).
4. Tested census processes, operations, and systems through three trial censuses and two post enumeration surveys to ascertain preparedness to conduct the census successfully.
5. Identified, estimated, and predicted workload of enumerators and predetermined methods for achieving complete coverage and accurate data.
6. Mobilised and leveraged state resources following the launch of the 100 Day Countdown to Census Night publicity, education and advocacy campaign by His Excellency, Alhaji Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia.
7. Installation of software and training materials on the tablets for the 76,500 Field Officers to be trained.
8. Dispatched approximately half of census materials and equipment to the respective districts.
9. Held several and continuous engagement with partners to support different components of the census process.
10. Obtained advocacy support in ensuring that census is a national and nonpartisan exercise.

Key dates

13th June: Listing of Structures Begins. Enumerators will locate every structure and write a unique serial number on the walls to identify each one.

27th June: Census Night. This is the reference period for all questions to be asked during enumeration.

28th June: Enumeration of All Persons Begins. Enumerators will commence visits to places of residence to collect detailed information on the individuals that spend the Census Night there.

Support Required from the Public

1. The media to act as key strategic partners in the census process particularly in creating public awareness through a series of coordinated publicity, education, and advocacy activities.
2. Provide programming support at the national and district levels to provide information to the public on the enumeration procedures and the benefits of the census.
3. Address myths, misinformation and misunderstanding about the census process by providing reliable information on the census.
4. Verify accuracy of information on the census before sharing.
5. Publicise the 30-day countdown to the Census Night starting 28th May to 27th June.
6. 24-hour census news coverage on 28th June, the first day of enumeration.

Key Messaging on Census

1. ALL persons, regardless of nationality, should be counted. The 2021 PHC aims for complete coverage and will leave no one behind.
2. "You Count, Get Counted" is the slogan for the 2021 PHC. A census is the only national activity that gives every single person in the country a voice. For the next ten years, the information from this census will determine how our nation's resources will be used.
3. It is safe for everyone to participate in the census. All the information collected is confidential and will only be used for statistical purposes.
4. All enumerators will have a valid census ID and must observe all COVID-19 protocols.
5. No one should assume that they have not been counted if they were not directly interviewed by an enumerator. Household heads or other adult members can answer questions on behalf of other members of the household in their absence. In case of doubt, they should first enquire if an has enumerator visited the household. A call centre will be available for persons to report if they have not been counted.
6. In areas where there are boundary disputes, the residents should allow the counting to proceed without incidence. The Ghana Statistical Service will report the results of such areas with a footnote to indicate that there is a boundary dispute which may affect the numbers. Eventually, once the boundary dispute is resolved, the population affected will be correctly allocated.

Contact information

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