



GHANA 2021 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS FACT SHEET

What You Need to Know About the 2021 PHC Provisional Results

The Ghana Statistical Service will release the Preliminary Report for the 2021 Population and Housing Census (PHC), which contains the provisional results, on 22nd September 2021. This factsheet provides all the needed information to prospective data users ahead of the release of the provisional results.

1. What population figures will be presented in the provisional results?

The provisional results will present the de facto population in Ghana which refers to the number of persons that spent the Census Night (27th June 2021) in Ghana. The de facto population figures in the provisional results are aggregated at the national level and will be presented by sex and region.

2. How will the provisional results be released?

The results will be released by the Government Statistician on Wednesday 22nd September 2021. The event will be streamed live online and telecast on selected radio and TV stations.

3. Do we expect differences between population projections and the provisional results?

Yes, population projections are made based on assumptions about fertility, mortality, and migration – the three components of population change. Thus, differences between projected and actual figures are based on the variation between the underlying assumptions and the reality.

4. How will the provisional results differ from the final results?

A variation between the provisional and final results is expected. However, the differences are expected to be within a minimal margin given the convergence observed between the provisional results and the different benchmark indicators.

The final results may mainly differ due to estimations of refusals and reallocation of population due to boundary disputes. These variations are mainly expected to reflect at the sub-national level.

5. What is in the Preliminary Report?

The 2021 PHC Preliminary Report contains provisional results of the 2021 PHC and provides information on population size and sex ratio, population density and structures by region. The results presented in this report are provisional. These statistics will be used as provisional figures until the final results are released in the General Report in November.



6. What is the difference between the Preliminary and General Report?

The distinction between Preliminary Report and General Report which will be released in November is the level of disaggregation and the scope. The General Report will present the final results on population size and sex ratio, population density, and structures, disaggregated to the regional level. The General Report will contain additional statistics generated from the different modules of the 2021 PHC questionnaires such as socio-demographic characteristics, Information, Communication and Technology (ICT), economic activity, housing conditions and sanitation.

However, both the data in the Preliminary Report and the General Report are from the same source i.e. data that was synced to the central server at HQ during data collection.

7. Why are the census results being released in stages?

Each release features different data products and presents data for different administrative unit and thematic areas. Given the enormity of data, and the depth and scope of statistics to be generated from the 2021 PHC, it is not possible to release all the census data products at once. There are an estimated 2.6 million disaggregated indicators that will be produced using the census data. To learn more about some of the indicators to be generated, download the 100 uses of census data document from the census website.

The Ghana Statistical Service has compiled the 2021 PHC Product Release Calendar to inform the public of census data products to be released within the next two years. The purpose of publishing this calendar is to keep stakeholders and data users updated on all the data products and activities in the important dissemination phase of the census with the aim of promoting wide usage of the census data for teaching and learning, research, policy, and planning

8. Who can use the provisional results?

The provisional results can be used by policymakers, researchers, civil society organisations, religious institutions, private sector, development partners, students, and the general public.

9. Do I need to buy a copy of the Preliminary Report to access the provisional results?

No. The preliminary report will be available to download for free from the census website.T

10. Where can I get more information?

For more information on the provisional results and all upcoming census dissemination activities, visit