THEMATIC BRIEF

Illiteracy in Ghana: Trends, Patterns and Correlates
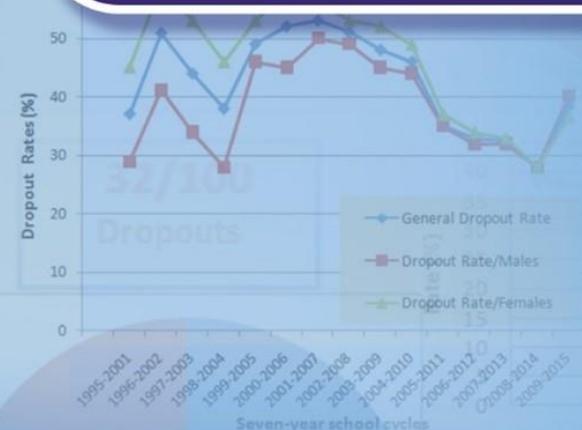
Agenda 2063
The AFRICA We Want

THE COORDINATED PROGRAMME OF ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES 2017-2024
AN AGENDA FOR JOBS: CREATING PROSPERITY
AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD
THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

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1. INTRODUCTION

The role of language proficiency in communicating innovative ideas, processes, risks, and outcomes is of utmost importance as countries strive for livelihoods and national economic transformation. For instance, Target 4.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) seeks to ensure that by 2030, all youth and a substantial proportion of adults achieve literacy. Consequently, both the global community and individual economies have committed to the tracking of the proportion of the population who can read and write, with understanding, in any language.

This thematic report examines the literacy levels of both children and adults and assesses existing efforts, interventions, and outcomes in Ghana. Specifically, this report analyses issues of illiteracy in Ghana on three broad areas; trends, patterns and plausible drivers and consequences.

In Ghana, several interventions have been instituted to improve literacy levels. Notable among the policy initiatives are the Free and Compulsory Universal Basic Education (FCUBE) launched in 1995 and the current Education Strategic Plan (ESP) 2018–2030. The Ghana 2021 Population and Housing Census revealed that the level of adult literacy was 72 percent. This is compared to 82 percent and 84 percent respectively for Sub-Saharan Africa and among Lower Middle-Income Countries , as reported by the World Bank for 2019.

A review of the current ESP presents the following statistics as a basis for instituting interventions: population of illiterate adults was more than 1.2 million, 54 percent of males and 43 percent of females of those who completed nine years of basic education acquired literacy skills and as of 2018 the latest batch of enrolment of the National Functional Literacy Programme (NFLP) in local languages was over 14,000 learners.

Consequently, the main policy directive in Ghana was to target the adult and youth population who had never enrolled or dropped out of the formal education system and provide them with non-formal education (NFE). Through the Non-Formal Education Division (NFED) of the Ministry of Education the key performance indicators (KPIs) for the 2018 – 2030 ESP were; enrolment in face-to-face adult literacy programmes, enrolment in newly created NFE programmes, number of new NFE programmes developed with textbook/content material (aggregate from baseline), number of new learning centres built, and proportion of non-formal graduates accessing skills development opportunities. These KPIs where possible, should be disaggregated by sex, location, wealth, and disability to help identify vulnerable sub-groups. In addition to the NFLP, Ghana's commitment in reducing illiteracy is reflected in the Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies, 2017-2024: An Agenda for Jobs which aims at designing a common national test to assess pupil achievement of foundation literacy and numeracy competency at the primary level. The foregoing demonstrates the intention of the government to improve literacy levels hence the need for this thematic brief.

The focus on trends of illiteracy is informed by its repeated prioritisation in both the past and current policy documents, and the variations in its conceptualisation and measurement over the past decades, and across different national programmes and data collection exercises. Previous assessment of illiteracy has shown variations across different types of locations and key demographic variables, specifically, age and sex which led to the implementation of specific interventions in the past. For instance, the measurement of data on illiteracy has either been by self-reporting, assessment, visuals or linked to formal education. This underpins the report's first objective to assess the patterns of illiteracy and the second objective to present geographic distribution of the illiterate population. Guided by the discourse on illiteracy in both the past and current policy documents, and the existing literature, the third objectives analyse the correlates of illiteracy.

The report mainly presents statistics in absolute numbers to highlight the magnitude of illiteracy in the country. In line with the Sustainable Development Goals' objective to leave no one behind, it is necessary to utilise both numbers and percentages for planning and policymaking.

The next sections present the Definition of Concepts, Data Sources and Measurements; Justification for the Selection of Correlates of Illiteracy, Key Findings; Conclusion and Appendices.

2. DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS, DATA SOURCES AND ESTIMATION

2.1.   Definition of Concepts

2.1.1. Literacy

This refers to the ability to read and write with understanding in any language. Illiterate persons are those who cannot read and write with understanding in any language.

2.1.2. Multidimensional Poverty

This is a non-monetary deprivation measure which uses three dimensions (health, living conditions and education) and 12 indicators (nutrition, health insurance, school attainment, school attendance, school lag, cooking fuel, assets, electricity, water, housing, overcrowding and sanitation).

2.1.3. Difficulty in Performing Activities

This refers to limited or lack of ability to perform specific functions in the following domains: sight, hearing, physical (walking or climbing stairs), intellectual (remembering or concentrating), self-care, and speech.

2.2.   Data Sources

The statistics presented in this report are generated from the 2021 Population and Housing Census (PHC). Statistics on trends are complemented with data from the 2000 and 2010 censuses. In addition, survey data from the Ghana Living Standards Surveys are utilised to present intercensal statistics on illiteracy.

2.3.   Estimation

A logistic regression model is employed to compute the likelihood of being illiterate given the alternative status of each of the explanatory variables (correlates of illiteracy) that have been identified to influence a person's ability to read or write in any language, and with understanding. Three models have been estimated for different age groups given the effect of specific variables on different age groups.

3. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE SELECTION OF CORRELATES OF ILLITERACY

3.1.   School Status of Children

Educational attainment at a certain level is expected to guarantee literacy, hence, the immediate policy directive for addressing illiteracy is to ensure that all school-age children are in school. The assessment of the status of school attendance of children and literacy outcomes provides an opportunity to determine whether school attendance ensures literacy.

3.2.   Survival of Parents

The responsibility of parents to ensure that their children become literate is compromised in the event of orphanhood from the loss of either one or both parents. The occurrence of orphanhood makes such children vulnerable engendering the need for government-targeted support.

3.3.   Literacy Level of Parents

The likelihood of children attaining literacy status is dependent on the literacy status of their parents, who would be in a better position to appreciate the associated benefits. This reflection leads to the hypothesis of inter-generational illiteracy, which suggests that households with illiterate parents are more likely to have illiterate children.

3.4.   Economic Activity (Sector of Employment, Employment Status and Occupation)

Literate adults have upward labour mobility in terms of specialised and diversified skills and earnings relative to illiterate adults who demonstrate horizontal movements due to their low and limited skills. Thus, the labour mobility of illiterate adults is restricted especially in their participation across technology-driven sectors.

It is further expected that persons in the labour force who cannot read and write with understanding in any language would face challenges in gaining employment, work predominantly in the informal sector and employ workers to support their economic activities.

3.5.   Disability Status

Vulnerable groups including persons with difficulty in performing activities face both individual and system-wide restrictions in achieving lifetime goals. The

individual restrictions are dominated by either stigma, discrimination, or self-exclusion. The system-wide architecture encompasses how friendly infrastructure is, the availability of aids to enhance the ability to perform certain activities, and the scope and targeting of policies for vulnerable groups.

3.6. Language and Digital Literacy

The discourse on literacy, which originally focused on language, has been expanded in the last couple of years to cover many other areas including numeracy, digital, financial, and statistical domains. While these dimensions of literacy have evolved independently, their plausible interrelationships, have not received adequate attention from both researchers and policymakers. For instance, should an individual be language literate to engender digital literacy? This concern is underscored by the higher proportion of persons 6 years and older who use Information and Communication Technology (ICT) devices (78.9%) relative to language literacy (69.8%) from the 2021 Population and Housing Census.

3.7. Multidimensional poverty

Literacy and poverty are related in many ways and at different levels. The relationship is causal and significantly moderated by other socio-demographic, economic, environmental, external shocks, and policy influences.

4. KEY FINDINGS

Statistics presented in this section are generated using data from the 2021 Population and Housing Census unless otherwise indicated.

4.1. Trends

Nationally, almost 8 million persons 6 years and older in Ghana are illiterate, i.e., cannot read or write, with understanding.

FIGURE 1: POPULATION IN GHANA THAT IS ILLITERATE BY AGE GROUP, 2021
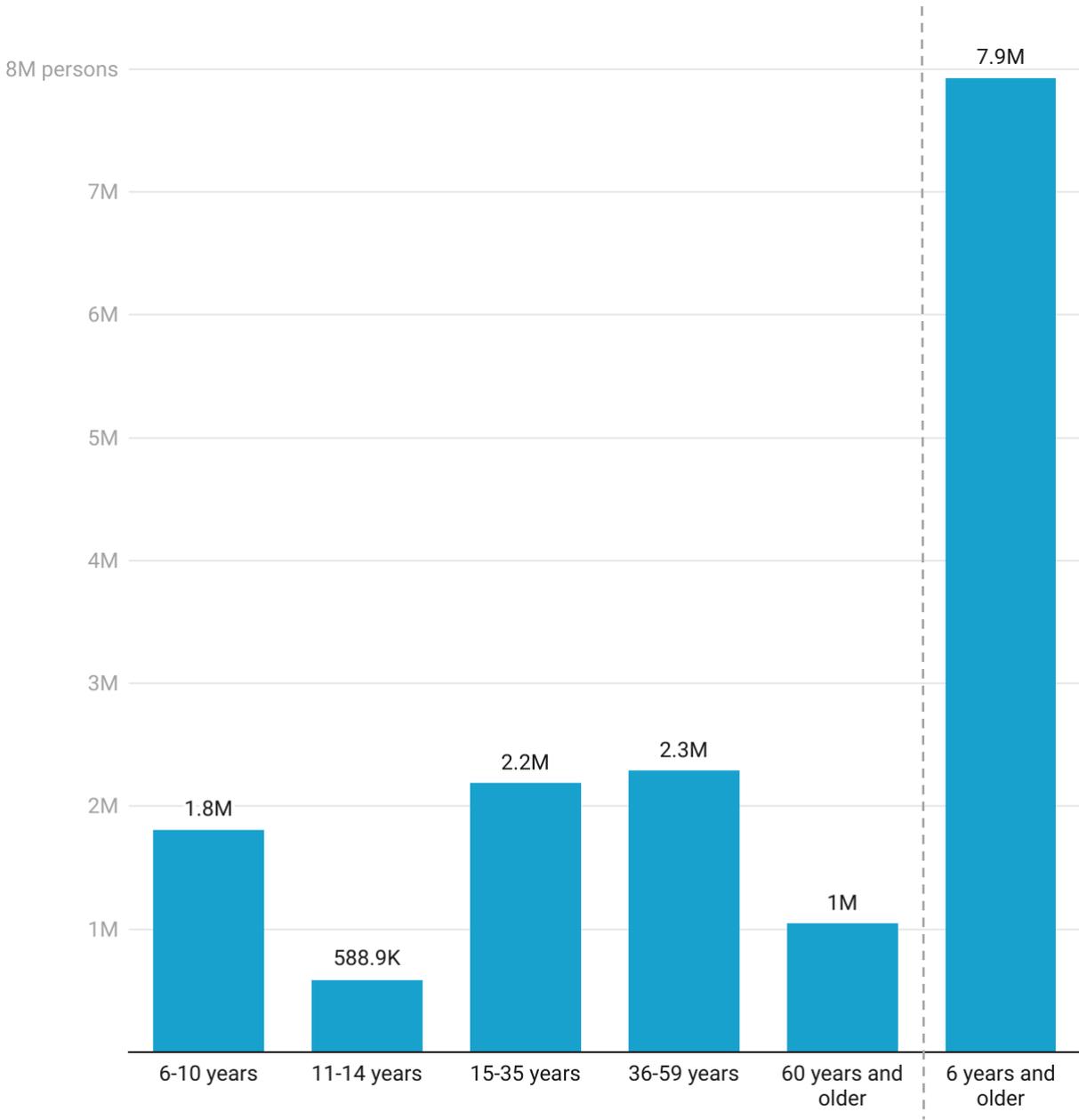
The 15 to 35 years age group, had the highest number of illiterates in 2000 and 2010 but 36 to 59 years had the highest in 2021

FIGURE 2: POPULATION IN GHANA THAT IS ILLITERATE BY AGE GROUP, 2000, 2010 AND 2021 CENSUSES

■ 2000 ■ 2010 ■ 2021

2.5M persons

	6-10 years	11-14 years	15-35 years	36-59 years	60 years and older
2000			2.3M	1.4M	941K
2010		165.6K	1.8M	1.5M	988.5K
2021	1.8M	588.9K	2.2M	2.3M	1M
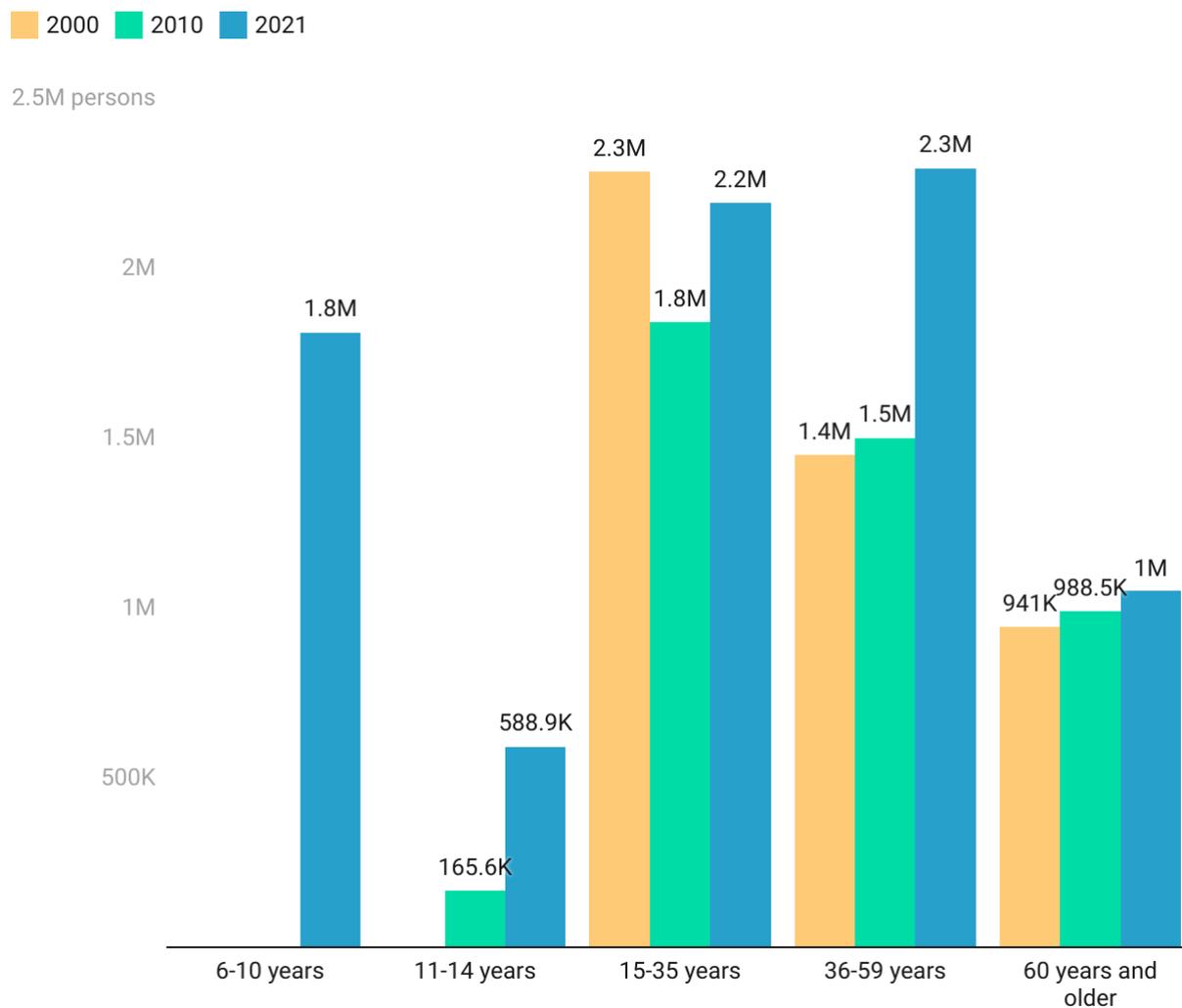
Data on literacy is not available for all age groups in previous censuses

The total number of adults (15 years and older) in Ghana that are illiterate increased by over a million between 2010 and 2021

FIGURE 3: ADULT POPULATION (15 YEARS AND OLDER IN GHANA) THAT IS ILLITERATE BY AGE GROUP, 2000, 2010 AND 2021 CENSUSES
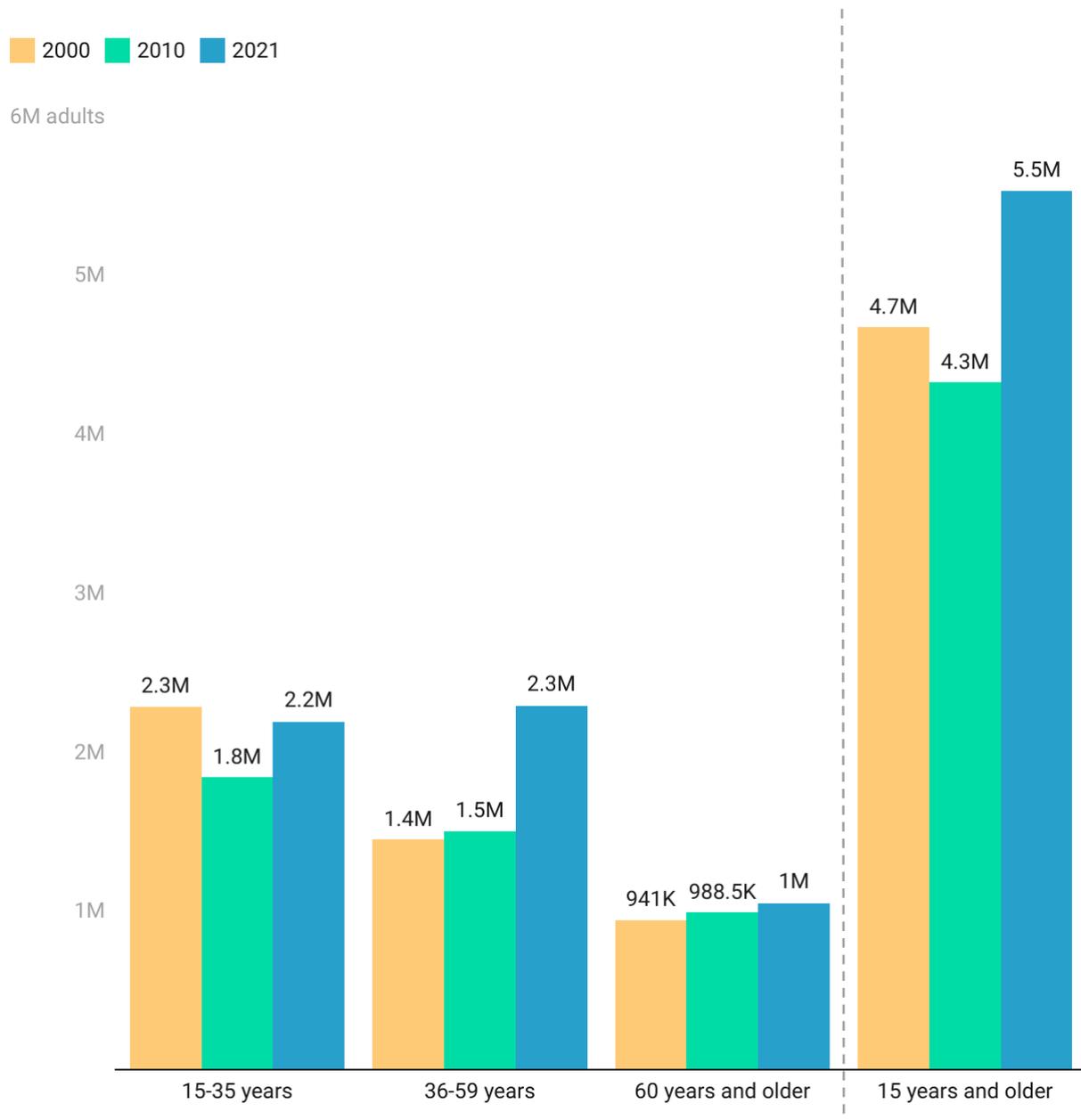
Survey data from intercensal years confirm that the number of illiterate adults in Ghana has increased over time.

Direct measures of literacy from the Ghana Living Standards Surveys suggest possible underreporting of the size of the population that is illiterate relative to the statistics derived from self and third party reporting in the Population and Housing Census.

FIGURE 4: ADULT POPULATION (15 YEARS AND OLDER) THAT IS ILLITERATE, 1991, 1998, 2005, 2012, AND 2017 GHANA LIVING STANDARDS SURVEYS (GLSS)
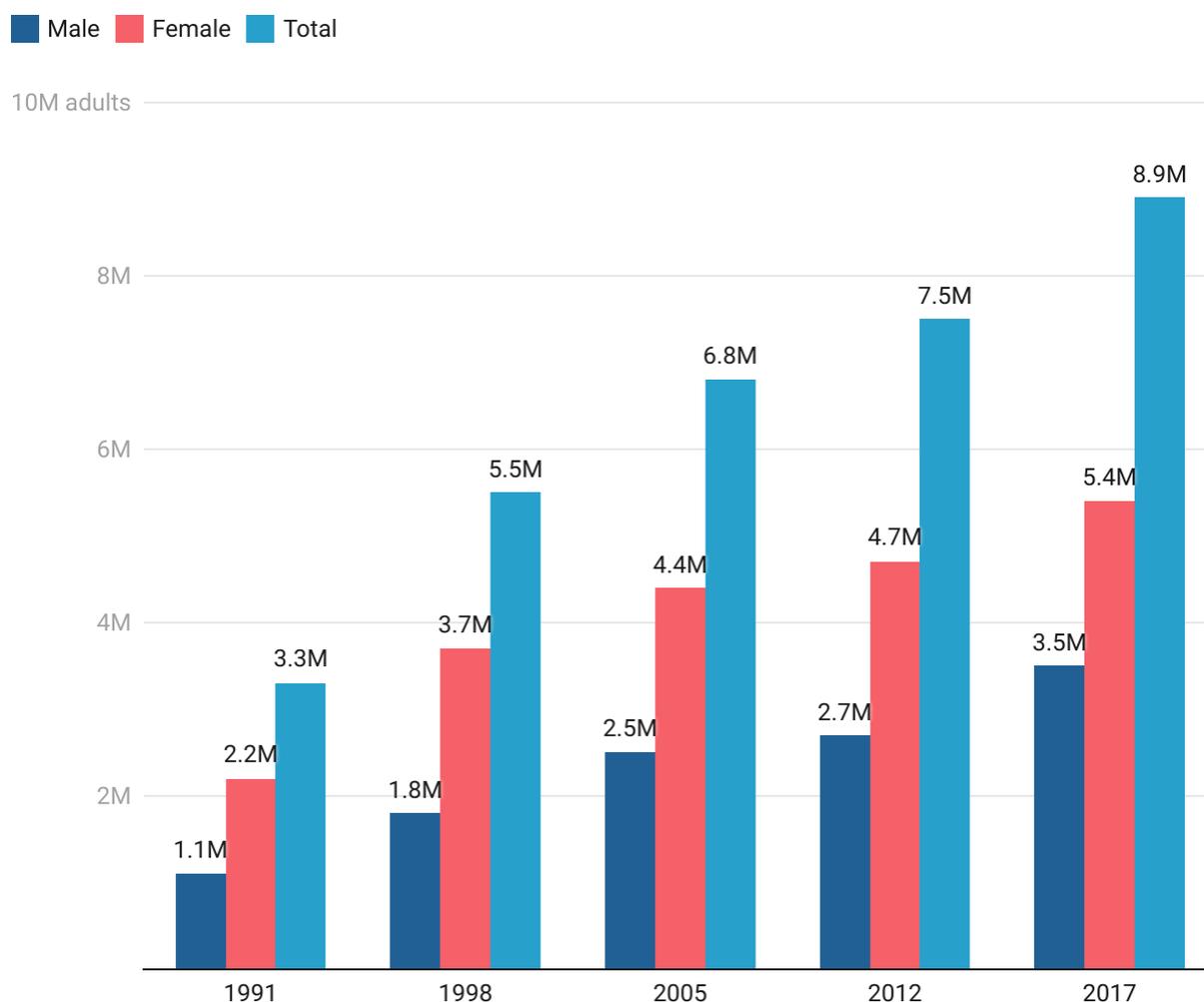
The GLSS collected information on literacy by presenting respondents with a short sentence to read and recording their performance instead of asking them to self-report as the census does

4.2. Patterns

Northern Region has the largest illiterate population, of 1,072,926 million persons, followed closely by Ashanti with 1,024,866 persons

FIGURE 5: ILLITERATE POPULATION AGED 6 YEARS AND OLDER BY REGION
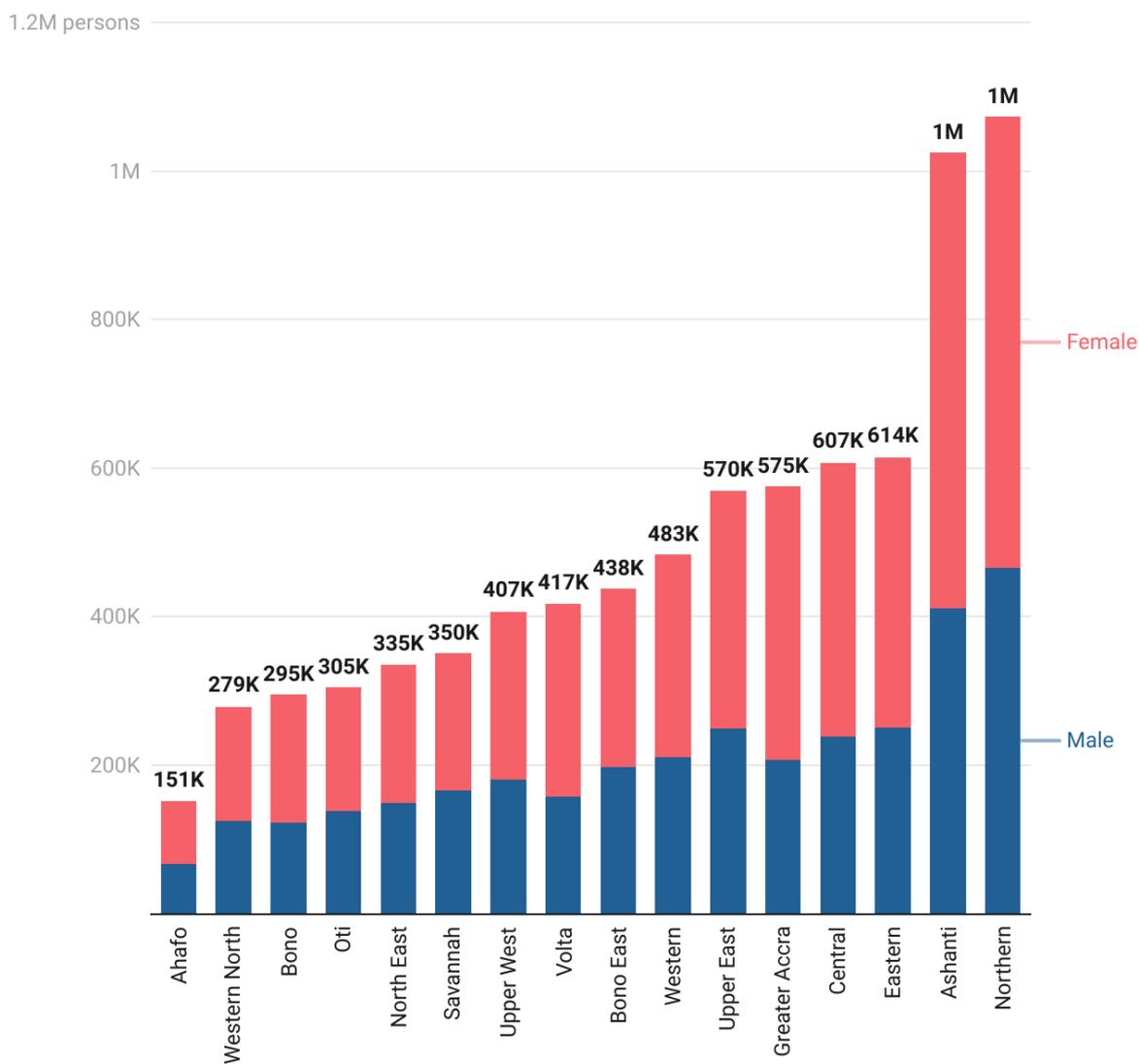
Overall, there are 2,930,527 illiterate persons in urban areas and 4,993,882 in rural areas. In all regions except Greater Accra, the illiterate population in rural areas outnumber that of urban.

FIGURE 6: ILLITERATE POPULATION BY TYPE OF LOCALITY, 2021

Region	Urban	Rural
Ahafo	54,432	96,650
Greater Accra	476,221	99,032
Bono	129,582	165,705
Oti	85,252	219,497
Western North	57,339	221,215
North East	86,885	247,997
Bono East	177,276	260,406
Savannah	72,917	277,413
Volta	133,413	283,421
Western	163,800	319,603
Central	278,822	328,487
Upper West	56,683	350,384
Eastern	220,313	394,099
Upper East	96,134	473,639
Ashanti	464,267	560,599
Northern	377,191	695,735
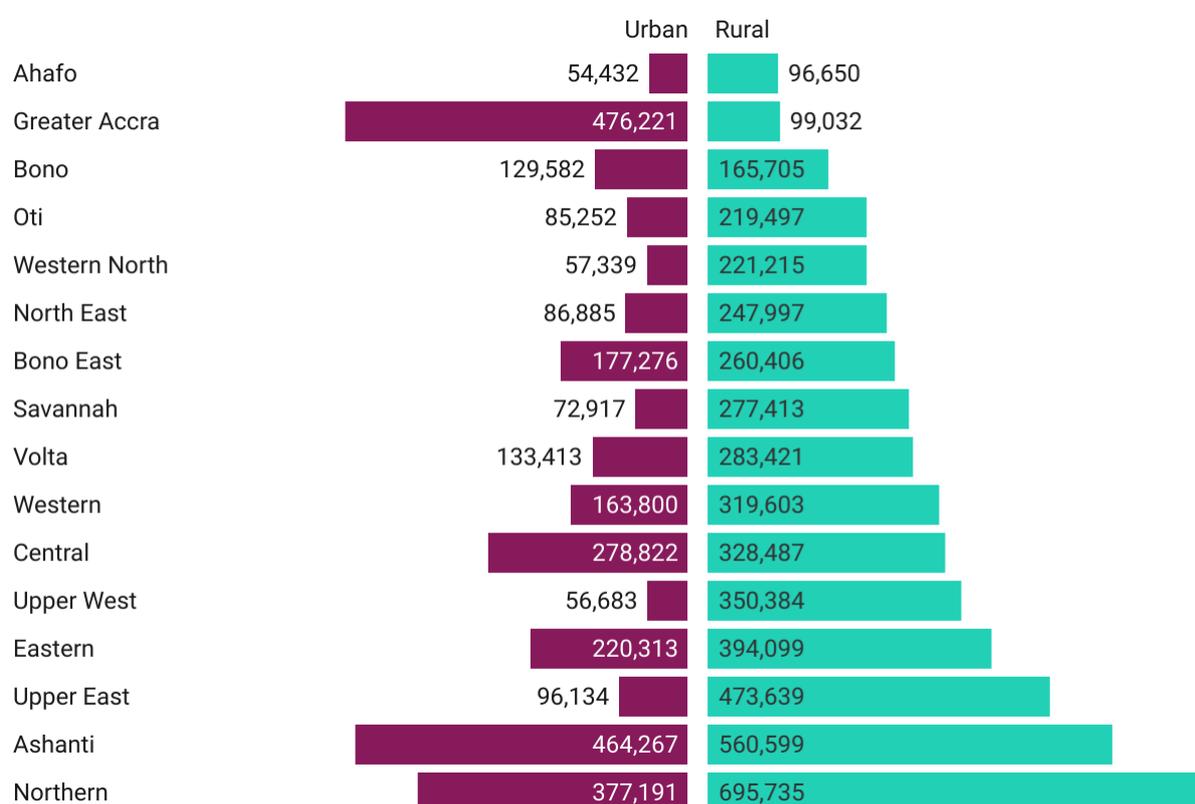
There are over one and a half (1.7) times as many illiterate persons in rural areas as in urban with the rural-urban difference being greater for males compared to females.

There are over one and a half (1.7) times as many illiterate persons in rural areas as in urban, twice as many for males compared to one and a half times (1.5) for females.

FIGURE 7: ILLITERATE POPULATION BY SEX AND TYPE OF LOCALITY
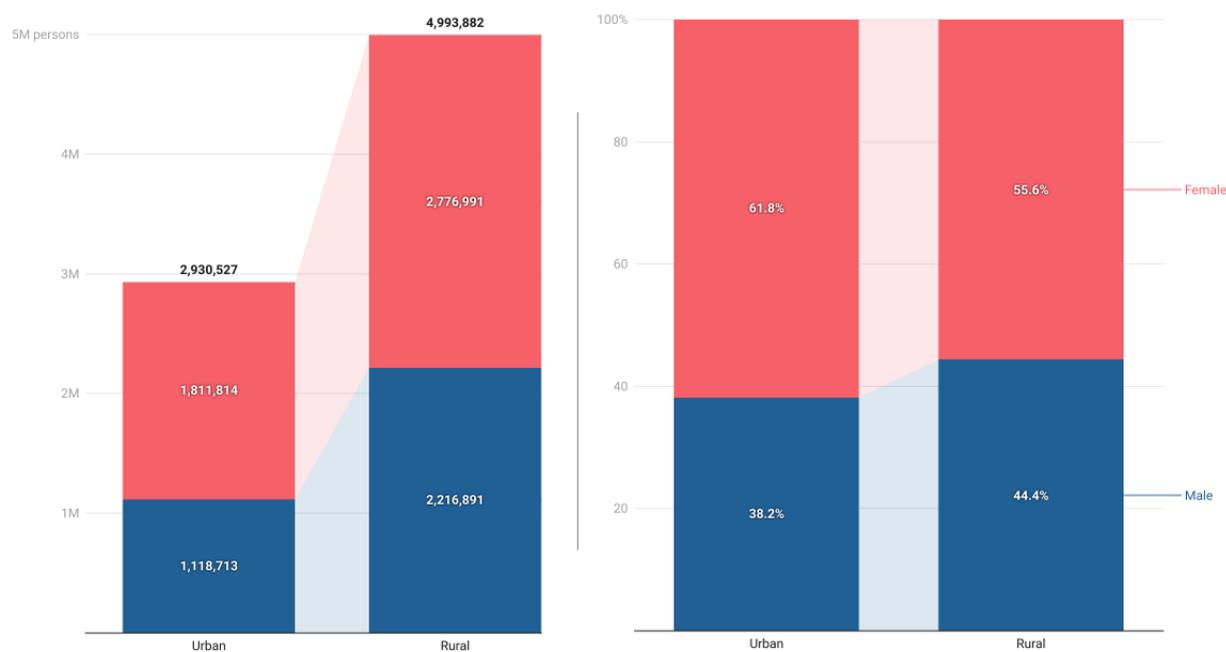
The female disadvantage in literacy has persisted over time.

FIGURE 8: ADULT POPULATION (15 YEARS AND OLDER) THAT IS ILLITERATE BY SEX, 2000, 2010 AND 2021 CENSUS YEARS

■ Male   ■ Females
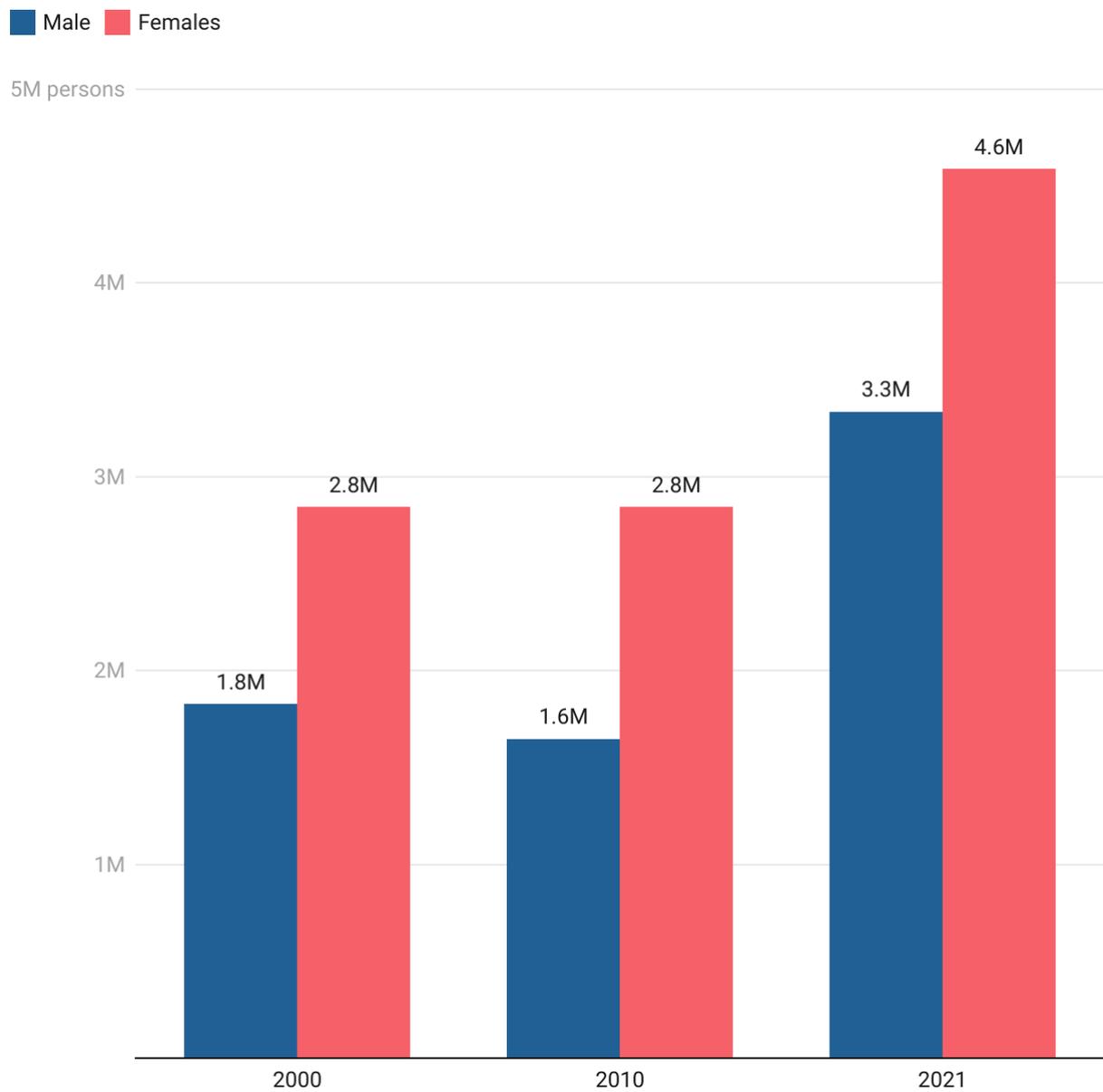
Four of the five districts with the largest population of illiterate persons are in the Northern Region.

Three out of the five districts with the highest percent (more than three-quarters) of the population illiterate are also in the Northern Region while all the districts with the lowest per cent are in Greater Accra.

FIGURE 9: DISTRICT RANKING (TOP AND BOTTOM 5) OF THE NUMBER OF ILLITERATE PERSONS

Rank	Region	District	Total illiterate persons	Total illiterate males	Total illiterate females
1	Northern	Tamale Metropolitan Assembly	123,455	50,372	73,083
2	Northern	Nanumba North Municipal	100,046	44,168	55,878
3	North East	East Mamprusi Municipal	98,293	43,631	54,662
4	Northern	Sagnarigu Municipal	94,006	37,518	56,488
5	Northern	Gushegu Municipal	92,056	41,521	50,535
257	Volta	North Dayi	7,589	3,232	4,357
258	Eastern	Birim South	7,286	2,886	4,400
259	Greater Accra	Korle Klottey Municipal	6,313	2,100	4,213
260	Oti	Guan	4,992	2,044	2,948
261	Greater Accra	Ayawaso West Municipal	4,076	1,581	2,495

FIGURE 10: DISTRICT RANKING (TOP AND BOTTOM 5) OF THE PERCENT ILLITERATE

Rank	Region	District	Percent illiterate (Total)	Percent illiterate (Males)	Percent illiterate (Females)
1	Northern	Karaga	81.0%	74.8%	86.7%
2	Northern	Gushegu Municipal	80.7%	75.1%	85.9%
3	North East	North East Gonja	80.2%	76.5%	83.9%
4	Northern	Mion	77.7%	72.1%	83.3%
5	Savannah	North Gonja	77.3%	72.8%	81.9%
257	Greater Accra	Ga Central Municipal	8.0%	5.2%	10.6%
258	Greater Accra	Ga East Municipal	7.6%	5.5%	9.6%
259	Greater Accra	Tema West Municipal	6.2%	4.3%	8.1%
260	Greater Accra	La Dade-Kotopon Municipal	6.2%	3.9%	8.2%
261	Greater Accra	Ayawaso West Municipal	5.9%	4.5%	7.4%

Nationally 3,800,793 (45.4%) households have at least one household member who is illiterate. Ashanti Region (600,402) has the highest number of households with illiterate household members followed distantly by Greater Accra (390,549).

About one in five households (694,581 out of the approximately 3.8 million households) with at least one household member illiterate, has at least two members who are illiterate.

FIGURE 12: HOUSEHOLDS WITH MEMBERS THAT ARE ALL ILLITERATE, BY REGION

- Two or more members in household
- One-member household

120K households

100K

80K

60K

40K

20K

Region	Total
North East	8K
Ahafo	14K
Oti	18K
Savannah	21K
Upper West	21K
Upper East	24K
Bono	26K
Western North	28K
Bono East	30K
Northern	36K
Volta	49K
Western	64K
Eastern	79K
Greater Accra	81K
Central	83K
Ashanti	113K
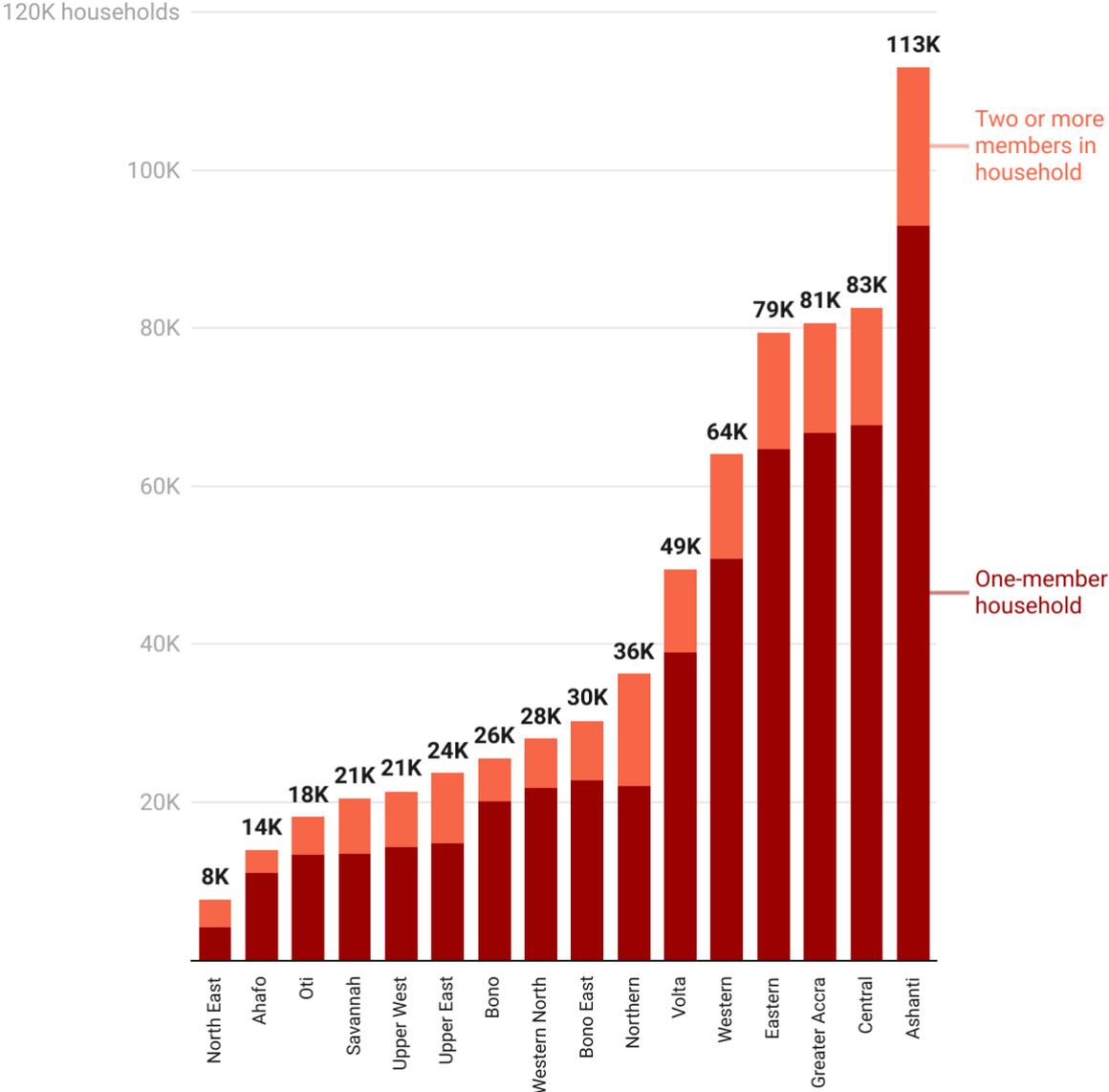
4.3.   Correlates

Nationally 1,855,483 out of the 2,461,740 children aged 6 to 14 years who are illiterate are currently attending school, representing three out of every four illiterate children (75.4%). Northern, North East and Savannah are the only regions where the population of illiterate children is split almost evenly between those currently attending and those not attending school.

FIGURE 13: ILLITERATE POPULATION AGED 6 TO 14 YEARS, BY REGION AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE STATUS
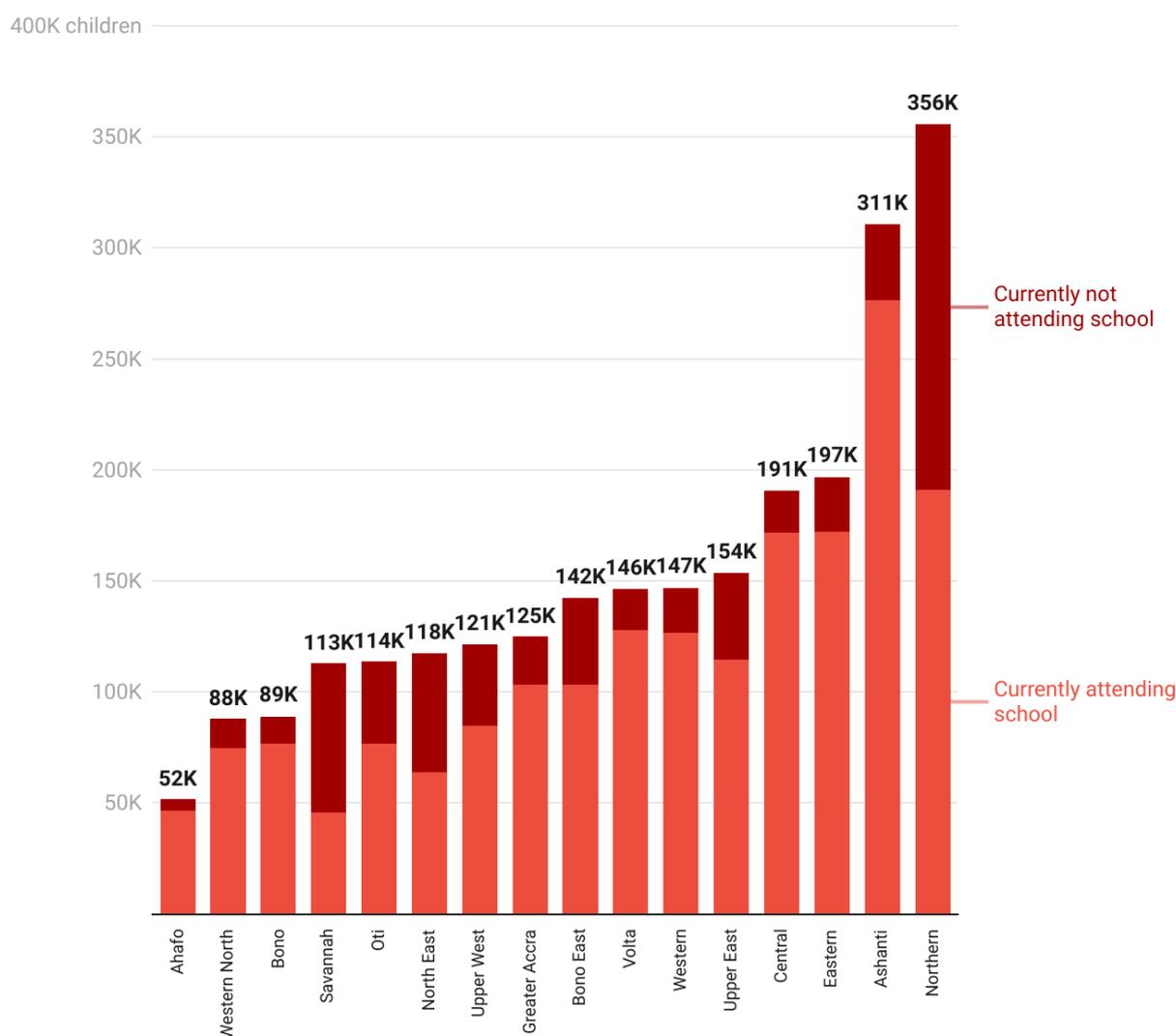
Nationally 606,257 representing almost half (47.0%) out of the 1,290,775 children who are illiterate either never attended or are currently not attending school with Northern, Savannah and North East contributing the largest share.

FIGURE 14: ILLITERATE POPULATION AGED 6 TO 14 YEARS WHO EITHER NEVER ATTENDED OR ARE CURRENTLY NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL BY REGION

FIGURE 15: ILLITERATE POPULATION AGED 6 TO 14 YEARS BY PARENTAL SURVIVAL STATUS
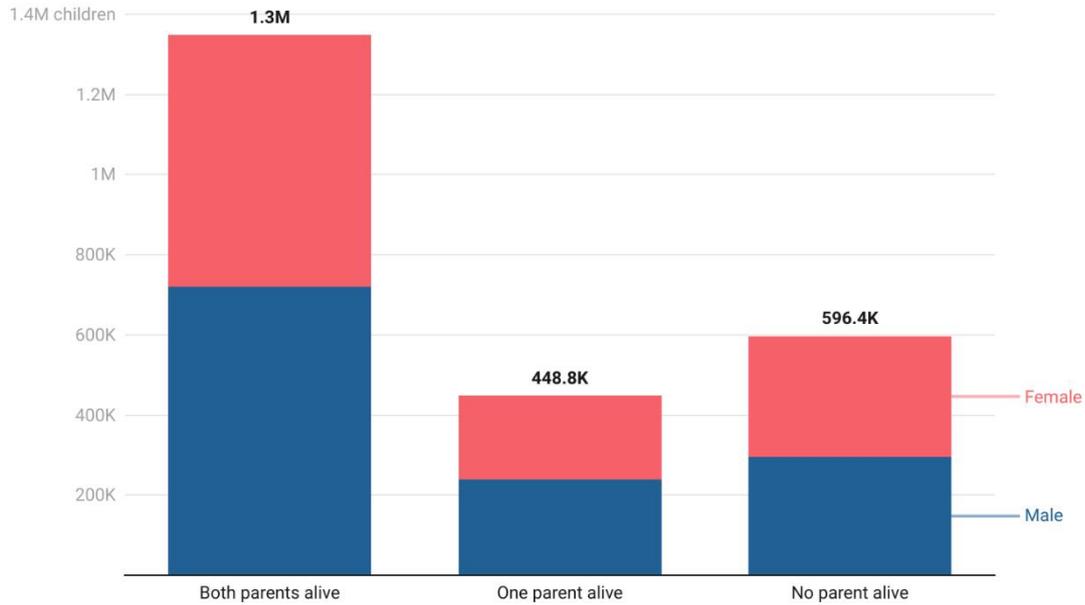
These figures are estimated only for children whose parents are the head of the household as those are the only children who can be linked to their parents in the census dataset
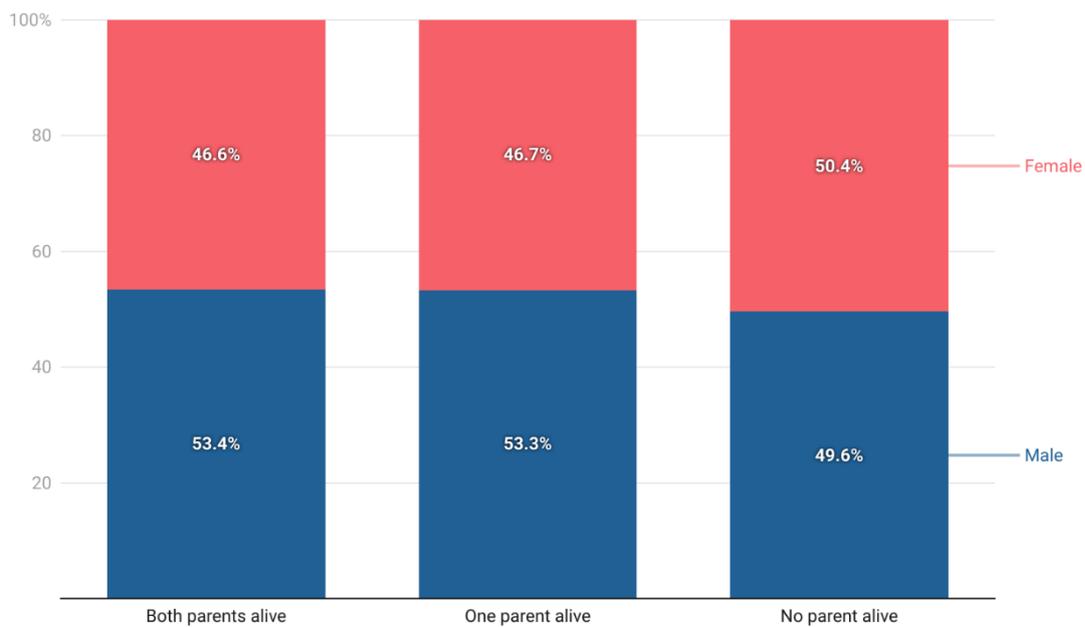
Nationally 431,417 out of the 1,551,118 (27.8%) unemployed population is illiterate with about six in every 10 (64.2%) being female. The Ashanti and Northern regions combined have almost a quarter (24.9%) of the population that is both illiterate and unemployed.

FIGURE 16: ADULT POPULATION (15 YEARS AND OLDER) WHO ARE ILLITERATE AND UNEMPLOYED BY SEX AND REGION
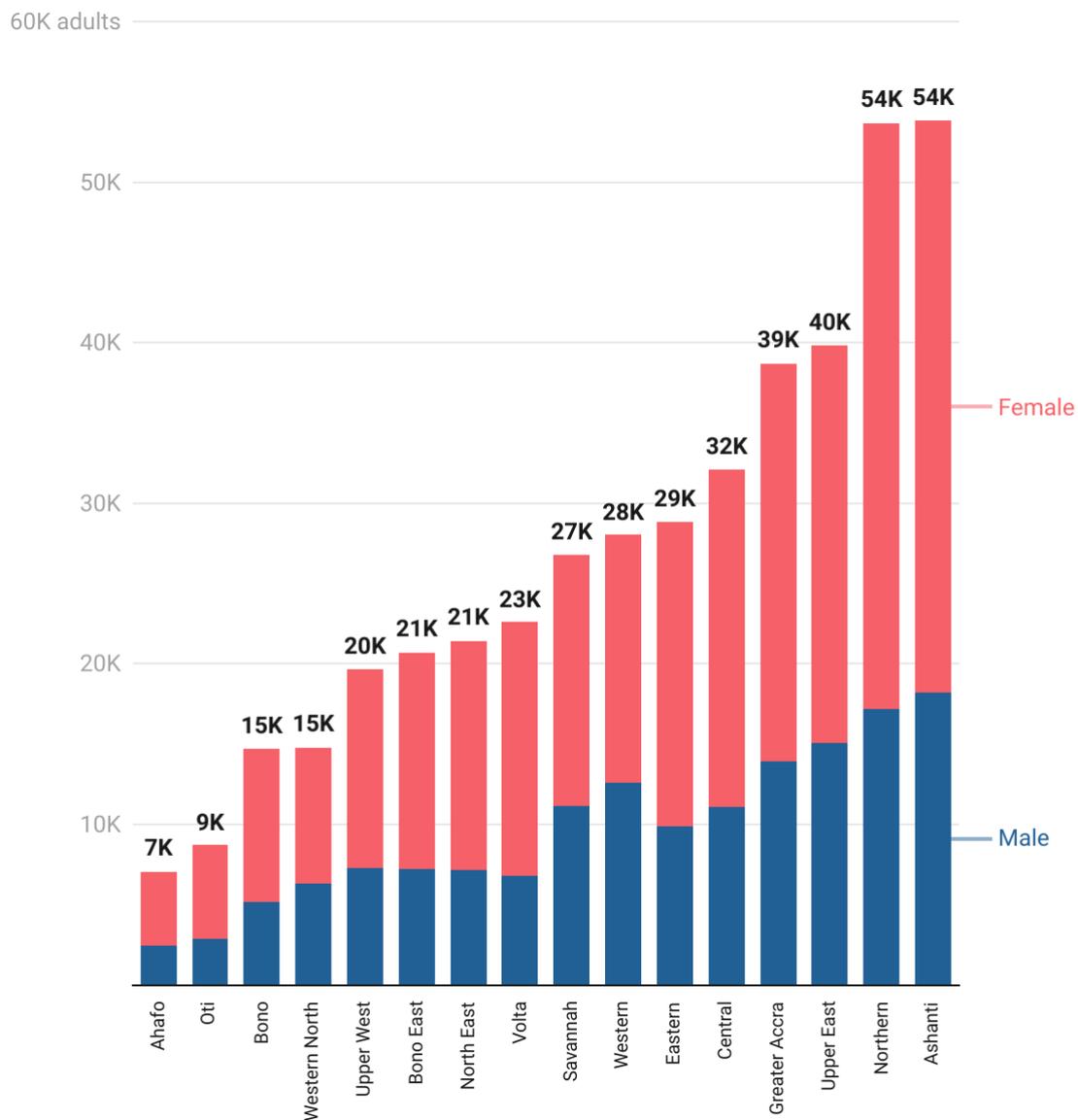
About 2.8 million out 2,905,282 illiterate and employed adults (94.8%) in Ghana are employed in the private informal sector.

3M adults

2,750,115	131,128	17,563	2,935	3,541
Private Informal	Private Formal	Public (Government)	Semi-Public/Parastatal	Other
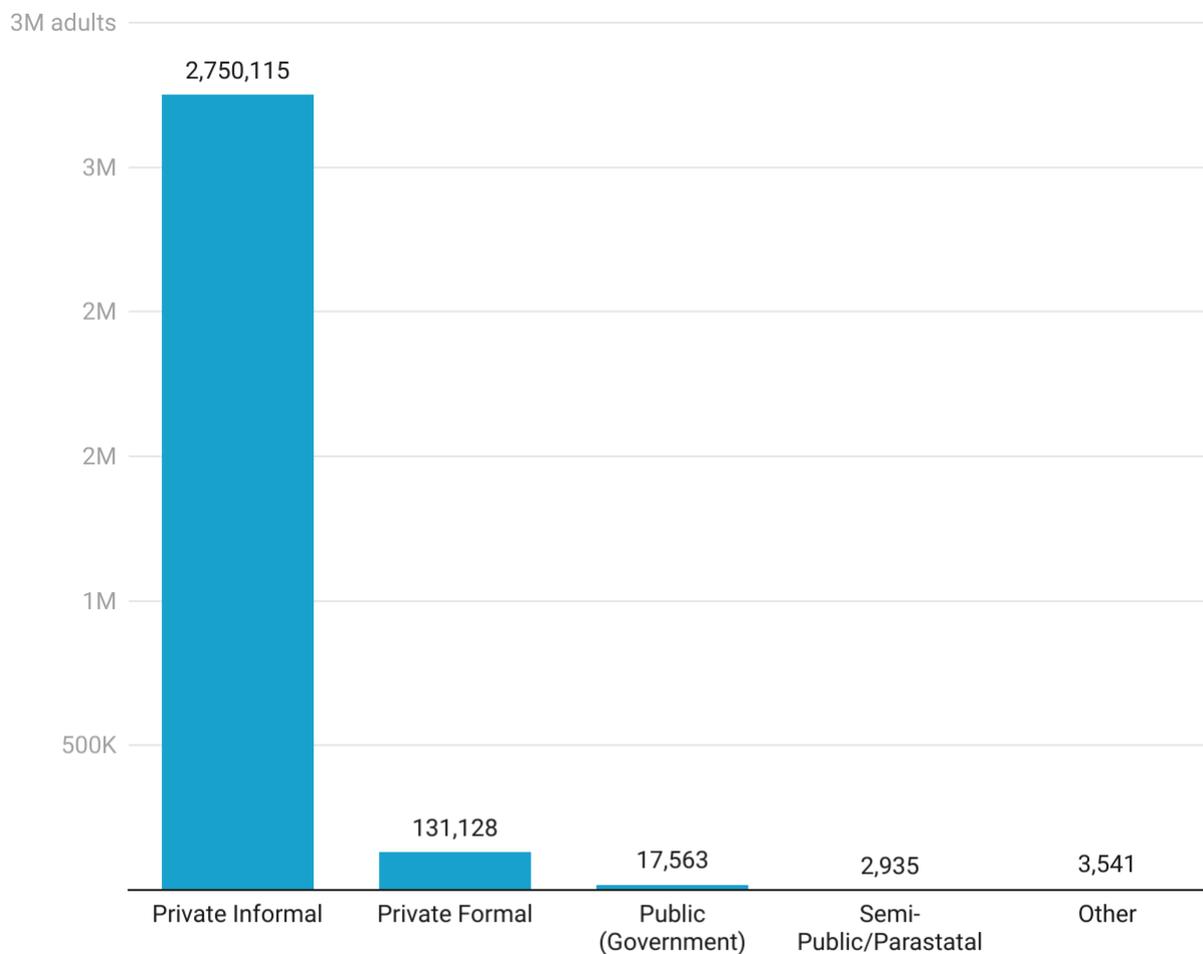
Other comprises local and international non-governmental organistion (NGO)/Civil Society Organisation (CSO), local and international religious organisation or international organisation

Eight in every 10 (80.6%) illiterate employed persons 15 years and older, representing a population of 2.3 million, are self-employed without employees.

FIGURE 18: EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF EMPLOYED POPULATION 15 YEARS AND OLDER WHO ARE ILLITERATE
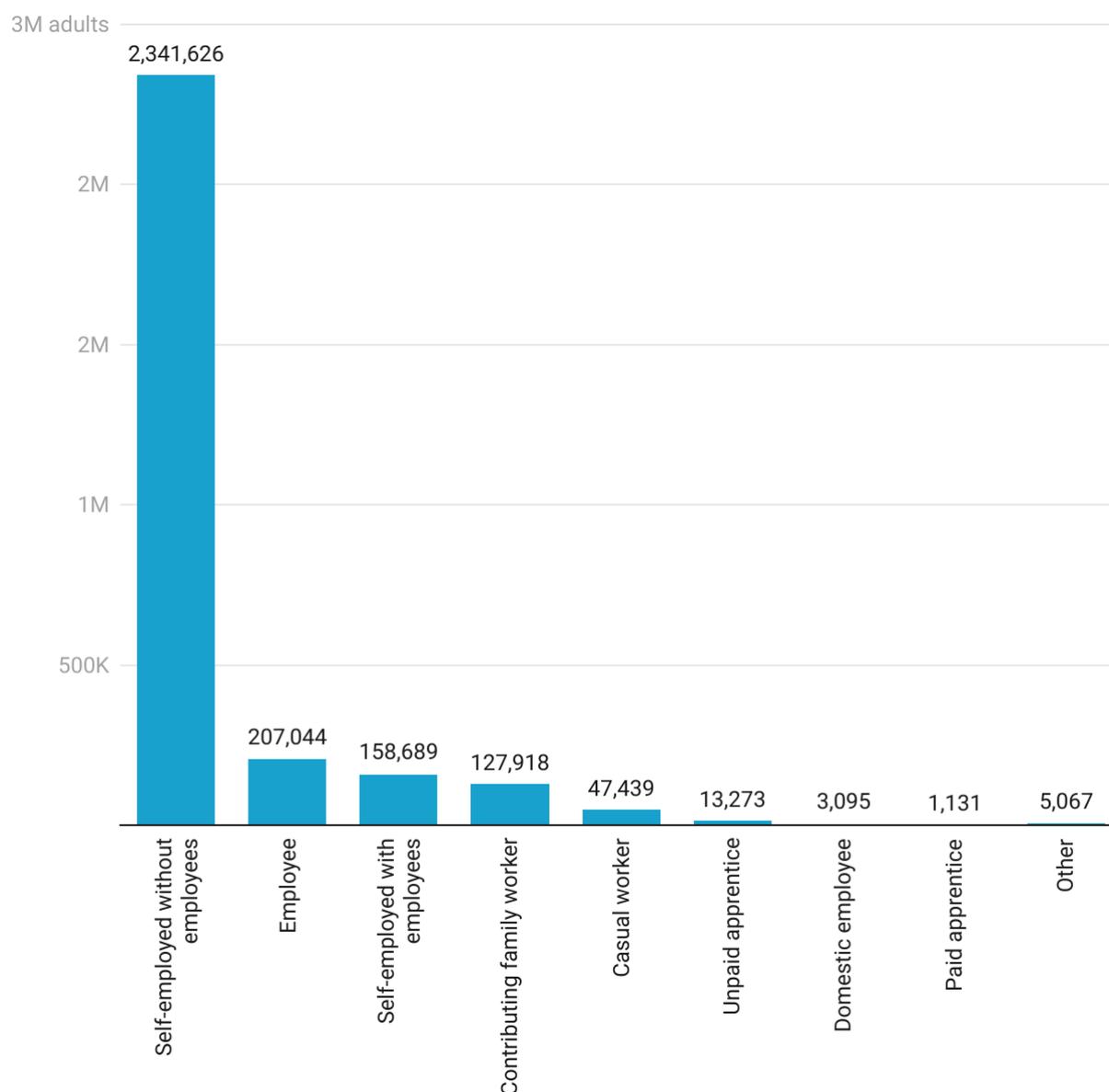
About six out of every 10 illiterate employed persons (60.8%) are in skilled agriculture occupations followed distantly by service and sales occupations (21.4%).

FIGURE 19: ILLITERATE AND EMPLOYED POPULATION 15 YEARS AND OLDER BY OCCUPATION GROUPS
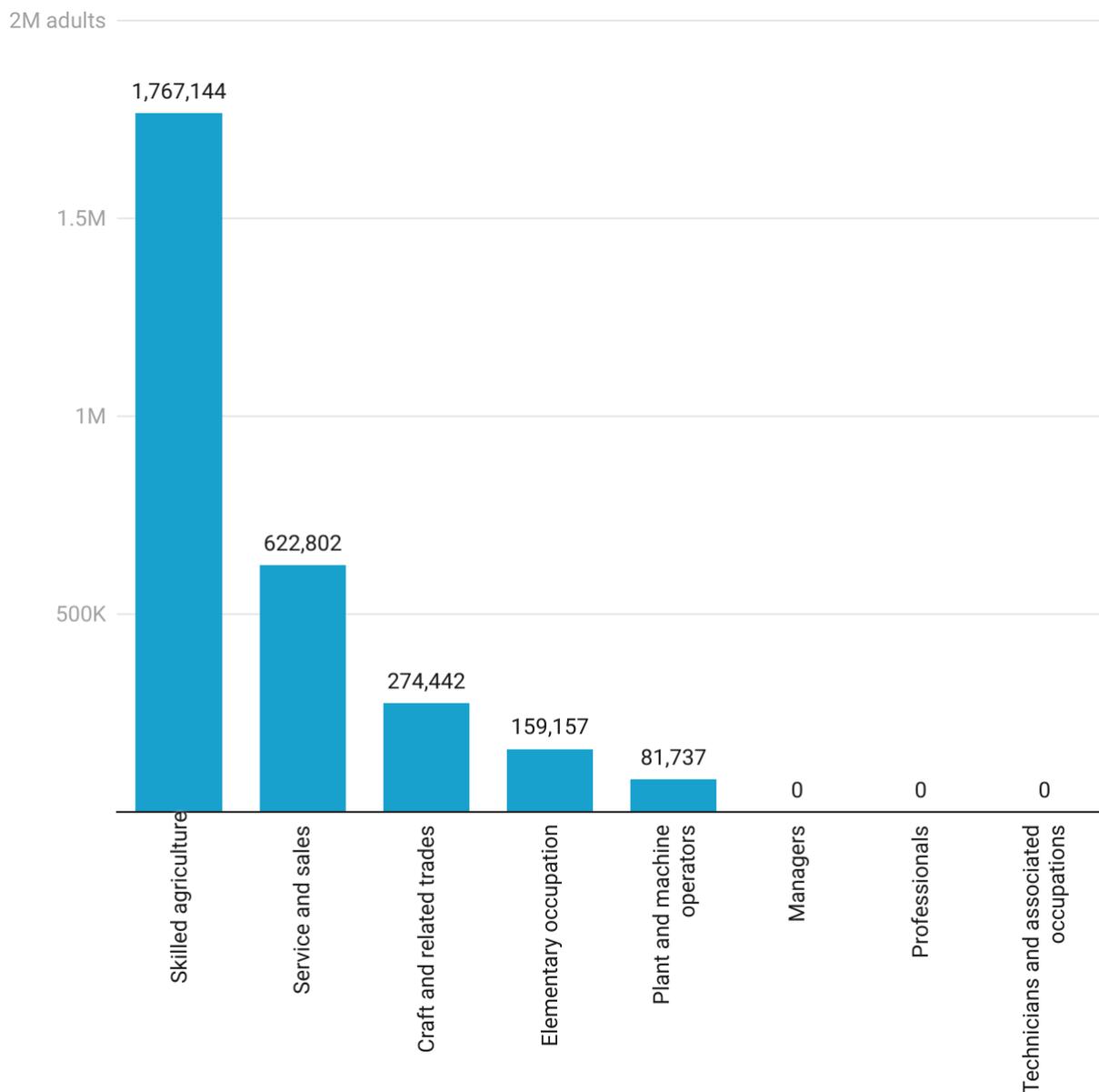
Almost a million (990,431) of the 2,098,138 persons with difficulty in performing activities are illiterate. The Ashanti Region has the greatest share (14.3%) followed by Eastern (10.3%) and Central (10.1%).

FIGURE 20: ILLITERATE POPULATION WITH DIFFICULTY IN PERFORMING ACTIVITIES BY SEX AND REGION
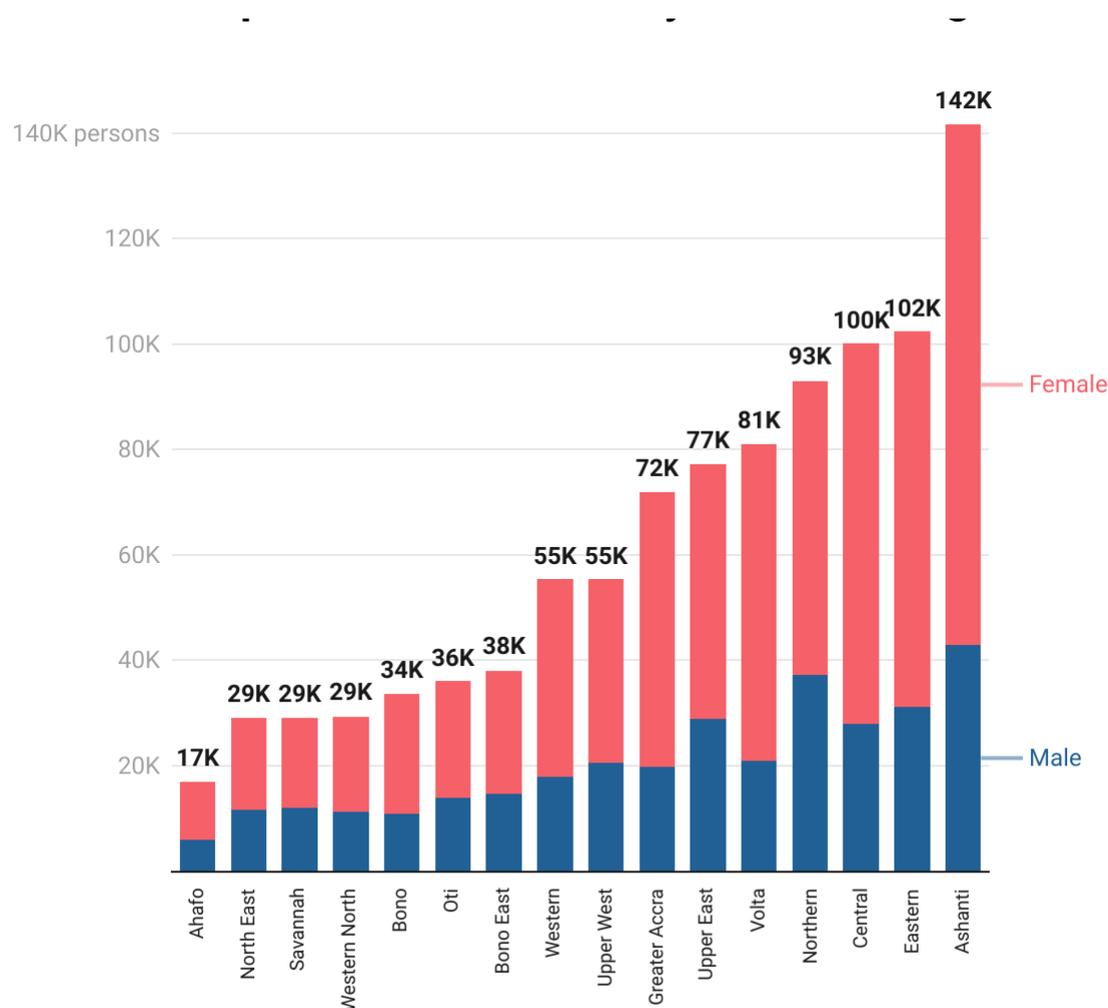
Difficulty in performing activities in one of the following domains: sight, hearing, physical (walking or climbing stairs), intellectual (remembering or concentrating), self-care, and speech.

Illiteracy is intergenerational. About six in every 10 (61.2%) illiterate children in Ghana have a parent who is also illiterate. In the five regions in the north, the percent exceeds 80%.

FIGURE 21: ILLITERATE POPULATION AGED 6 TO 14 YEARS ONE OF WHOSE PARENT IS ILLITERATE BY REGION
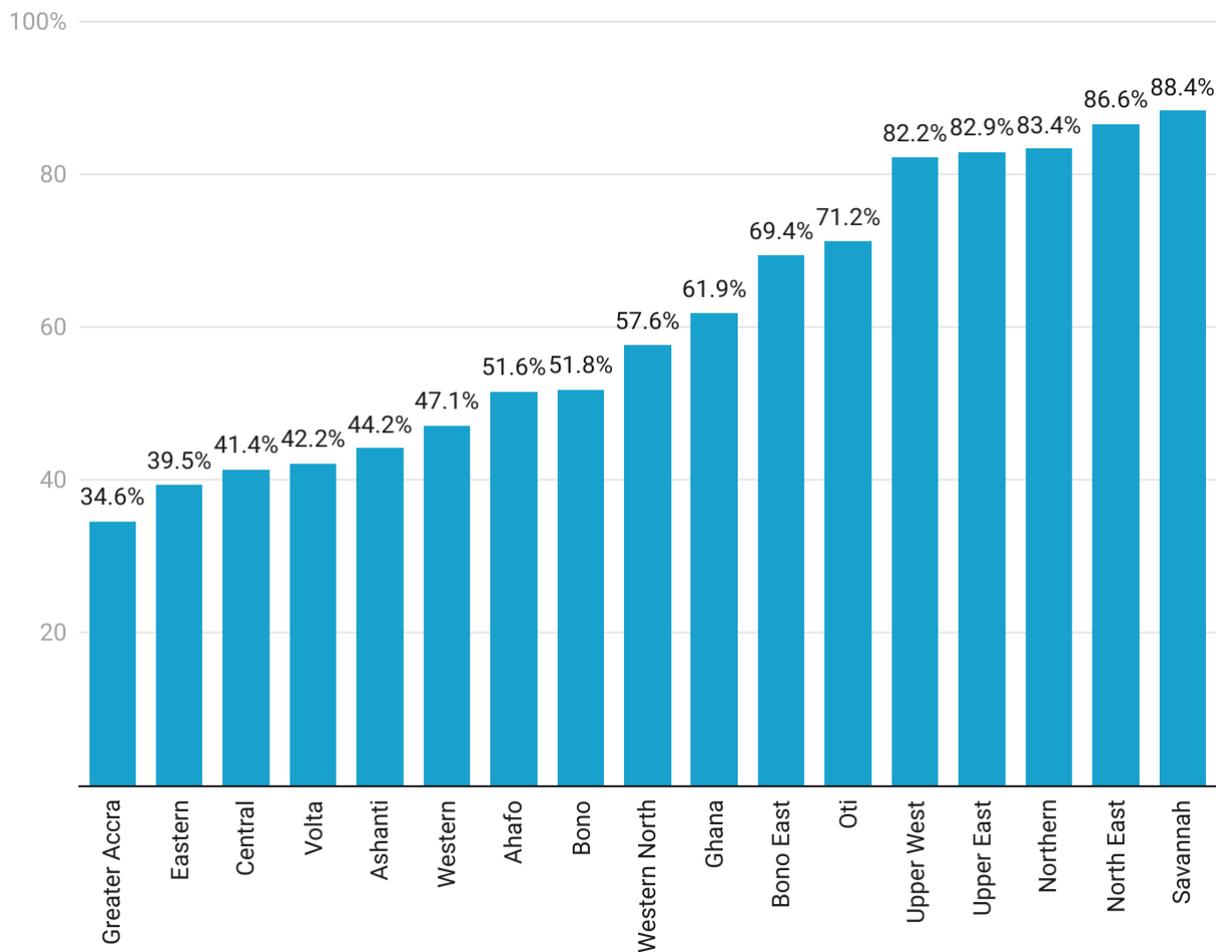
These figures are estimated only for children whose parents are the head of the household as those are the only children who can be linked to their parents in the census dataset

Nationally 3,873,864 illiterate persons representing almost half (48.9%) of the illiterate population live in households that are multidimensionally poor. The Northern region has the highest number of persons who are multidimensionally poor and illiterate (652,959) followed by the Ashanti Region (420,439).

FIGURE 22: ILLITERATE POPULATION 6 YEARS AND OLDER THAT LIVE IN HOUSEHOLDS THAT ARE MULTIDIMENSIONALLY POOR BY REGION
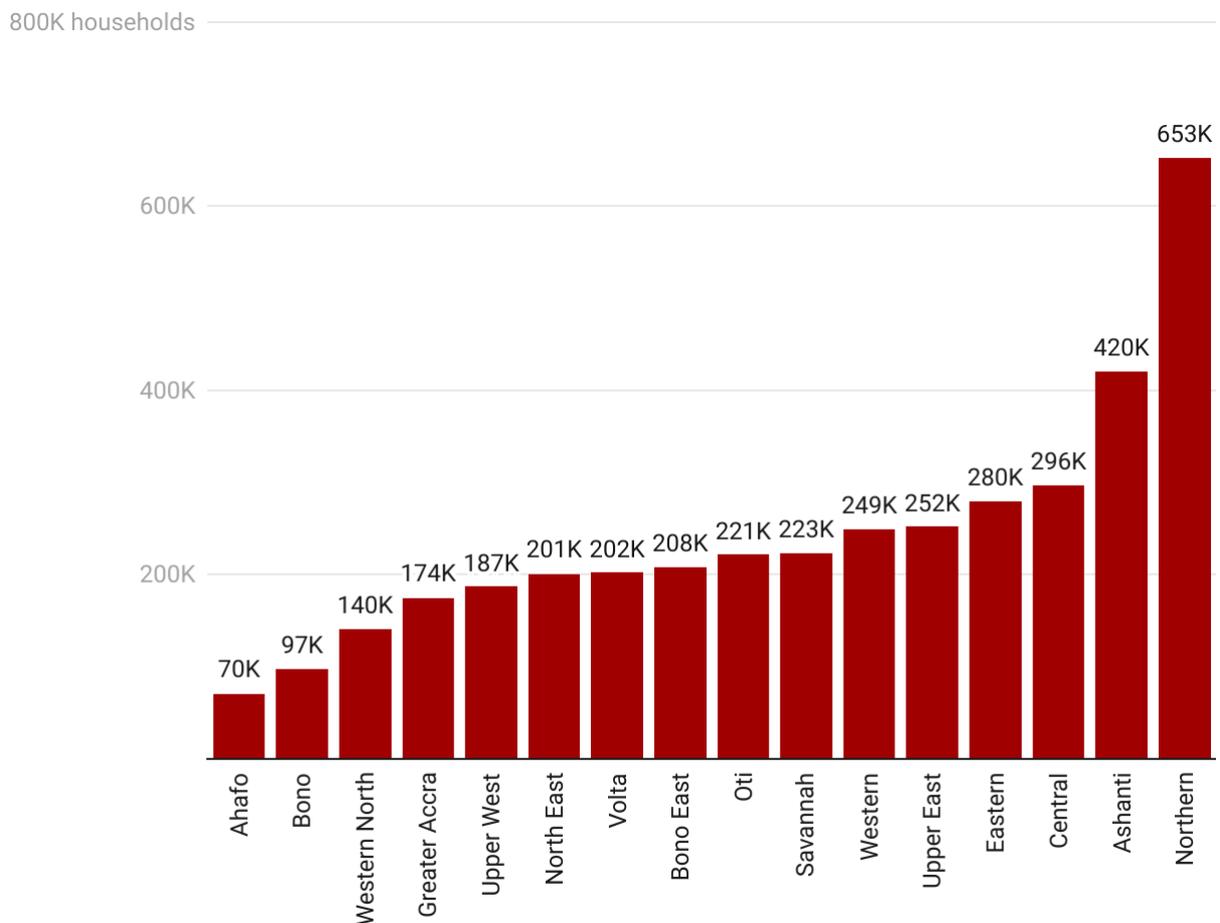
The dimensions of multidimensional poverty are living conditions (electricity, housing, assets, overcrowding, cooking fuel, and drinking water), education (attendance, attainment, and school lag), and health (insurance coverage and nutrition)

About 3.4 million (60.8%) of the 5.5. million illiterate adults own a mobile phone. In the three months preceding Census Night 3.7 million (66.4%) of illiterate adults used an ICT device, while 1.2 million (21.5%) used the internet.

FIGURE 23: ICT USAGE OF ILLITERATE ADULTS (15 YEARS AND OLDER) BY SEX
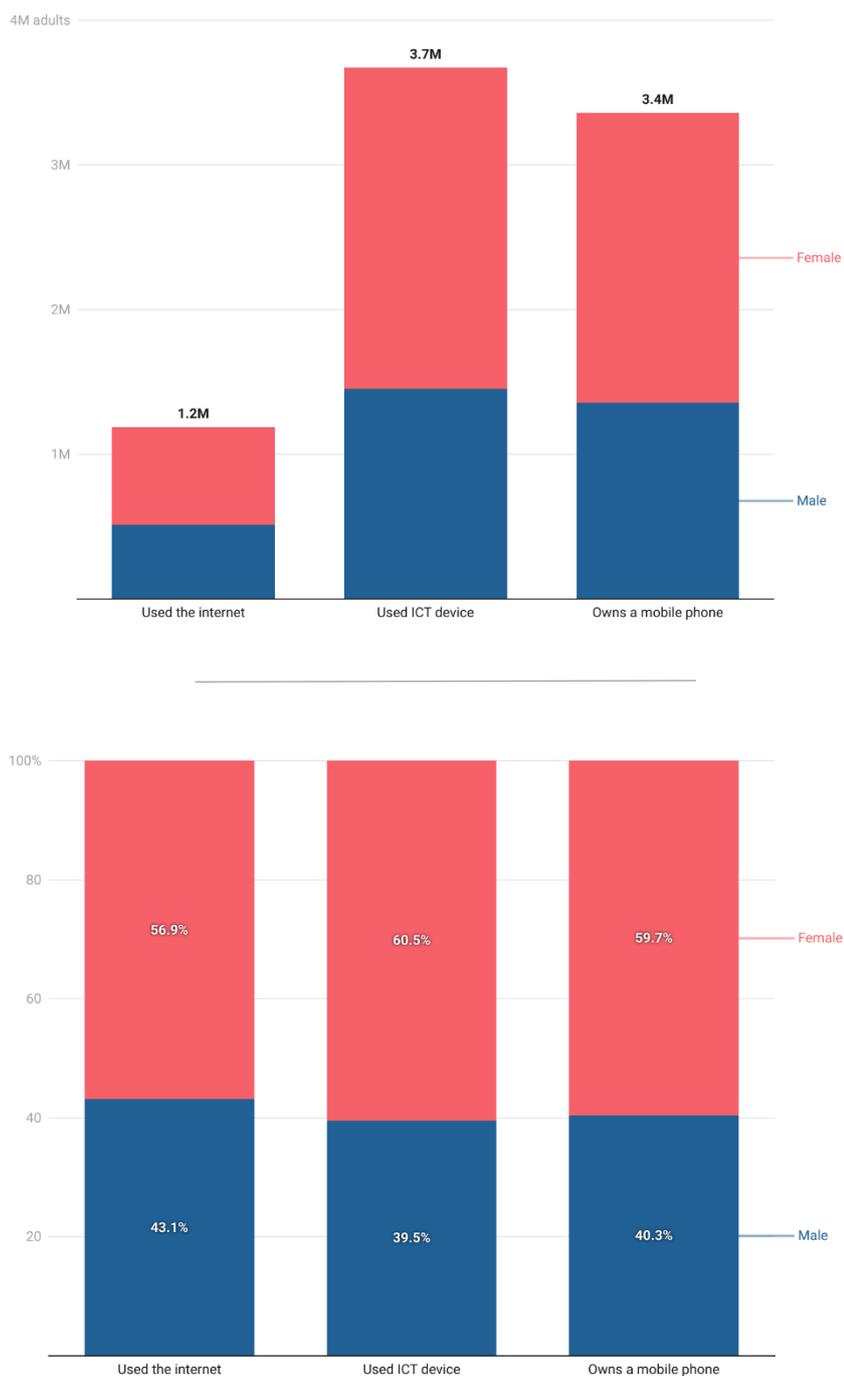
Less than half (42.6%) of the illiterate adult population (15 years and older), representing 2.4 million illiterate adults, used a mobile phone for a financial transaction in the three months preceding Census Night (27th June 2021).

In all regions except for Eastern and Volta, a higher proportion of illiterate males used a mobile phone for a financial transaction compared to illiterate females.

FIGURE 24: ILLITERATE ADULTS (15 YEARS AND OLDER) WHO USED A MOBILE PHONE FOR A FINANCIAL TRANSACTION IN THE THREE MONTHS PRECEDING CENSUS NIGHT (27TH JUNE 2021) BY SEX AND REGION
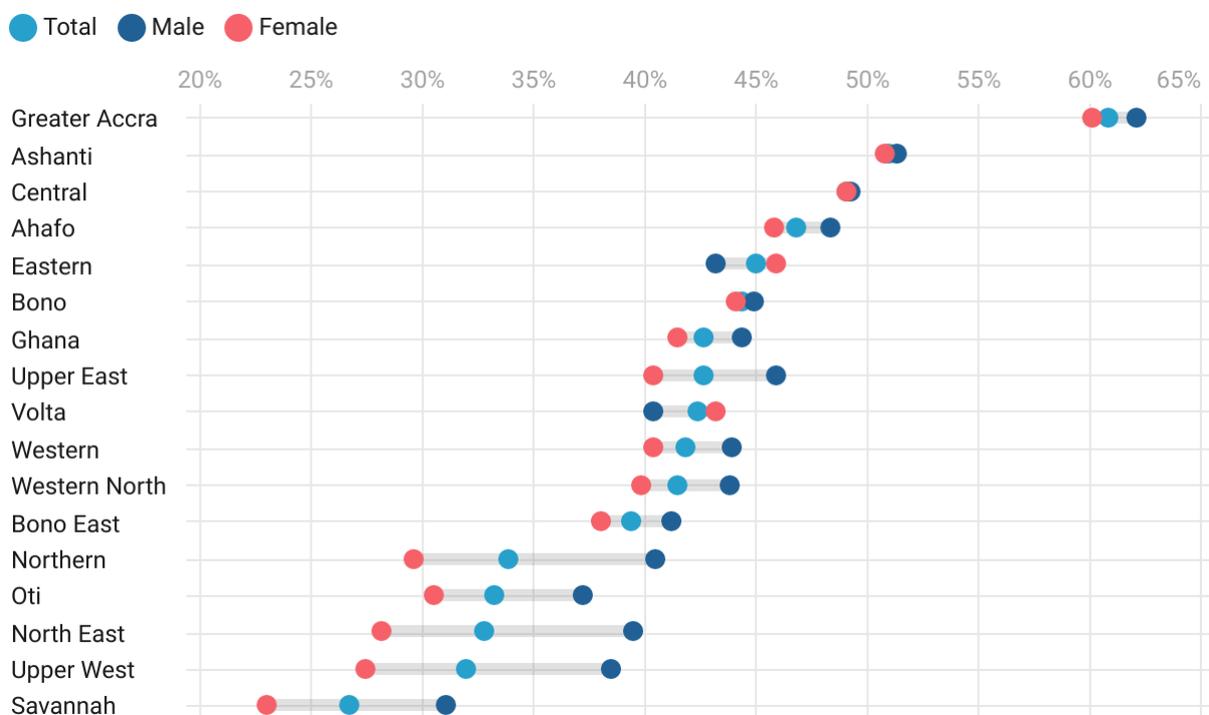
Persons 15 years and older currently attending school are 100 percent less likely to be illiterate compared to those who have never attended school. The odds are only slightly better for the younger age bracket (6 to 14 years).

The multidimensionally poor adults (15 years and older) are more than 100 percent likely to be illiterate than those that are not multidimensionally poor, but for children (6 to 14 years) that likelihood is half.

Children who have lost both parents or their mother are more likely to be illiterates compared to those with both parents or their mother alive. Those with only father alive are 7.9% more likely to be illiterate than those with no parent alive.

Children who have at least one literate parent are 43.5% less likely to be illiterate than those who do not.

People in urban areas are 43.2% less likely to be illiterate than those in rural areas, but the odds are more favourable for children than for adults.

TABLE 1: PERCENTAGES OF ODDS RATIOS FROM THE LOGISTIC REGRESSION RESULTS PREDICTING ILLITERACY

Variable	6 years and older	6 to 14 years	15 years and older
Base category (male)			
Female	30.2	−6.0	88.7
Base category (never attended)	-	-	-
Attending now	−99.7	−97.3	−100.0
Attended in past	−99.5	−94.3	−99.6
Base category (not multidimensionally poor)	-	-	-
Multidimensionally poor	66.3	52.7	117.9
Base category (did not use ICT)	-	-	-
Used ICT	−90.0	−60.8	−80.0
Base category (no difficulty)	-	-	-
Difficulty in performing activities	92.7	4.1	10.6
Base category (rural)	-	-	-
Urban	−43.2	−49.7	−40.1
Base category (no parent alive)	-	-	-
Both parents alive	-	−8.0	-
Only mother alive	-	−8.7	-
Only father alive	-	7.4	-
Base category (illiterate parent)	-	-	-
Literate parent		−43.2	

The model also controls for age and region

5. CONCLUSIONS

Despite the increased proportion of literate persons in Ghana over the past two decades, the global agenda of *leave no one behind,* necessitates concern with the growing absolute numbers of persons who are illiterates.

The variation in the number of illiterate children in the Education Strategic Plan (ESP) 2018 – 2030 Policy document and findings from previous censuses and surveys calls for harmonisation of the statistics on literacy across state agencies. Moving forward, the pathways for assessing the KPIs of ESP, and the data collection modes and measurement of these KPIs, has become apparent given the characterisation of illiteracy in Ghana.

The multifaceted nature of the causes and effects of illiteracy in Ghana, coupled with the variations by sex, age and location (region, district, and type of locality) warrants immediate intervention by the government and other relevant stakeholders.

The finding that illiterate populations in Ghana are more concentrated in certain geographic areas, particularly in the regions of the north and in rural areas across the country, makes it possible for easy targeting of interventions.

The intergenerational transfer of illiteracy points to a need for both literacy and sensitisation programmes targeting illiterate persons of reproductive age to ensure that their children attain the requisite education participation to promote their literacy. Special attention must also be paid to vulnerable populations i.e. those living in multidimensionally poor households, children who have lost a parents, and those with difficulty in performing activities.

6. APPENDIX – DISTRICT TABLES

Additional tables on Literacy are available in the 2021 PHC General Report Volume 3D: Education and Literacy (https://bit.ly/2021phcreports) and from the Census Statistics dashboard (https://ghanastat.com).

TABLE 2: POPULATION 6 YEARS AND OLDER THAT IS ILLITERATE, BY DISTRICT AND SEX

District	Total	Male	Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Western					
Jomoro Municipal	36,331	14,420	21,911	39.70%	60.30%
Ellembelle	31,771	13,195	18,576	41.50%	58.50%
Nzema East Municipal	32,560	15,350	17,210	47.10%	52.90%
Ahanta West Municipal	38,266	15,288	22,978	40.00%	60.00%
Effia Kwesimintsim Municipal	15,630	5,061	10,569	32.40%	67.60%
Sekondi Takoradi Metropolitan Area (STMA)	23,679	7,919	15,760	33.40%	66.60%
Shama	24,535	9,781	14,754	39.90%	60.10%
Wassa East	31,560	13,707	17,853	43.40%	56.60%
Mpohor	13,828	5,906	7,922	42.70%	57.30%
Tarkwa-Nsuaem Municipal	38,878	17,192	21,686	44.20%	55.80%
Prestea/Huni Valley Municipal	59,020	26,941	32,079	45.60%	54.40%
Wassa Amenfi East Municipal	57,887	27,769	30,118	48.00%	52.00%
Wassa Amenfi Central	40,719	19,855	20,864	48.80%	51.20%
Wassa Amenfi West Municipal	38,739	18,349	20,390	47.40%	52.60%
Central					
Komenda Edina Eguafo Abirem Municipal	43,258	17,753	25,505	41.00%	59.00%
Cape Coast Metropolitan Assembly	20,509	7,215	13,294	35.20%	64.80%
Abura Asebu Kwamankese	33,503	12,822	20,681	38.30%	61.70%
Mfantsiman Municipal	39,497	15,791	23,706	40.00%	60.00%
Ekumfi	18,491	6,918	11,573	37.40%	62.60%
Gomoa West	39,425	14,612	24,813	37.10%	62.90%
Effutu Municipal	19,884	8,067	11,817	40.60%	59.40%
Gomoa Central	17,878	6,218	11,660	34.80%	65.20%
Gomoa East	43,210	16,396	26,814	37.90%	62.10%
Awutu Senya East Municipal	24,484	8,520	15,964	34.80%	65.20%
Awutu Senya	40,850	15,854	24,996	38.80%	61.20%
Agona East	22,257	8,415	13,842	37.80%	62.20%
Agona West Municipal	26,798	9,927	16,871	37.00%	63.00%
Asikuma Odoben Brakwa	32,209	12,761	19,448	39.60%	60.40%
Ajumako Enyan Essiam	29,157	10,706	18,451	36.70%	63.30%
Assin South	27,205	11,209	15,996	41.20%	58.80%
Twifo Heman Lower Denkyira	17,101	7,042	10,059	41.20%	58.80%
Twifo Ati Morkwa	27,448	11,604	15,844	42.30%	57.70%
Assin Fosu Municipal	12,994	4,951	8,043	38.10%	61.90%
Assin North	22,155	9,192	12,963	41.50%	58.50%
Upper Denkyira East Municipal	23,359	10,083	13,276	43.20%	56.80%
Upper Denkyira West	25,637	12,050	13,587	47.00%	53.00%

District	Total	Male	Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Greater Accra					
Ga South Municipal	49,991	18,987	31,004	38.00%	62.00%
Weija Gbawe Municipal	16,714	5,786	10,928	34.60%	65.40%
Ga Central Municipal	23,248	7,316	15,932	31.50%	68.50%
Ablekuma North Municipal	11,382	3,324	8,058	29.20%	70.80%
Ablekuma West Municipal	12,511	4,037	8,474	32.30%	67.70%
Ablekuma Central Municipal	20,160	7,575	12,585	37.60%	62.40%
Accra Metropolitan Assembly	46,139	15,625	30,514	33.90%	66.10%
Korle Klottey Municipal	6,313	2,100	4,213	33.30%	66.70%
Ayawaso Central Municipal	8,646	2,461	6,185	28.50%	71.50%
Ayawaso East Municipal	10,085	3,135	6,950	31.10%	68.90%
Ayawaso North Municipal	9,042	2,577	6,465	28.50%	71.50%
La Dade-Kotopon Municipal	7,669	2,342	5,327	30.50%	69.50%
Ledzokuku Municipal	18,575	6,522	12,053	35.10%	64.90%
Krowor Municipal	10,206	3,470	6,736	34.00%	66.00%
Adentan Municipal	17,030	6,193	10,837	36.40%	63.60%
Ayawaso West Municipal	4,076	1,581	2,495	38.80%	61.20%
Okaikoi North Municipal	12,770	4,038	8,732	31.60%	68.40%
Ga North Municipal	18,918	6,858	12,060	36.30%	63.70%
Ga West Municipal	35,609	13,485	22,124	37.90%	62.10%
Ga East Municipal	18,905	6,702	12,203	35.50%	64.50%
La Nkwantanang Madina Municipal	18,427	6,253	12,174	33.90%	66.10%
Kpone Katamanso Municipal	38,753	14,132	24,621	36.50%	63.50%
Ashaiman Municipal	23,548	7,889	15,659	33.50%	66.50%
Tema West Municipal	10,773	3,611	7,162	33.50%	66.50%
Tema Metropolitan Assembly	19,800	7,184	12,616	36.30%	63.70%
Ningo-Prampram	35,619	14,582	21,037	40.90%	59.10%
Shai-Osudoku	22,754	9,437	13,317	41.50%	58.50%
Ada West	25,206	10,521	14,685	41.70%	58.30%
Ada East	22,384	8,870	13,514	39.60%	60.40%
Volta					
South Tongu	32,459	11,728	20,731	36.10%	63.90%
Anloga	29,252	10,344	18,908	35.40%	64.60%
Keta Municipal	19,817	6,939	12,878	35.00%	65.00%
Ketu South Municipal	76,082	27,690	48,392	36.40%	63.60%
Ketu North Municipal	36,243	12,846	23,397	35.40%	64.60%
Akatsi North	11,529	4,084	7,445	35.40%	64.60%
Akatsi South Municipal	26,993	9,391	17,602	34.80%	65.20%
Central Tongu	29,441	11,287	18,154	38.30%	61.70%
North Tongu	33,962	13,414	20,548	39.50%	60.50%
Ho West	15,660	6,420	9,240	41.00%	59.00%
Adaklu	11,060	4,763	6,297	43.10%	56.90%
Agortime-Ziope	11,971	4,451	7,520	37.20%	62.80%
Ho Municipal	19,067	7,262	11,805	38.10%	61.90%
South Dayi	12,241	5,474	6,767	44.70%	55.30%
Afadzato South	14,099	6,045	8,054	42.90%	57.10%

District	Total	Male	Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
North Dayi	7,589	3,232	4,357	42.60%	57.40%
Kpando Municipal	10,992	4,713	6,279	42.90%	57.10%
Hohoe Municipal	18,377	7,209	11,168	39.20%	60.80%
Eastern					
Birim South	7,286	2,886	4,400	39.60%	60.40%
Birim Central Municipal	9,947	3,708	6,239	37.30%	62.70%
Achiase	14,484	5,613	8,871	38.80%	61.20%
Asene Manso Akroso	18,687	7,197	11,490	38.50%	61.50%
West Akim Municipal	28,198	11,212	16,986	39.80%	60.20%
Upper West Akim	26,255	10,492	15,763	40.00%	60.00%
Ayensuano	25,899	10,633	15,266	41.10%	58.90%
Nsawam Adoagyiri Municipal	24,185	9,550	14,635	39.50%	60.50%
Akwapim South Municipal	11,667	4,651	7,016	39.90%	60.10%
Akwapim North Municipal	15,299	5,895	9,404	38.50%	61.50%
Okere	11,127	4,108	7,019	36.90%	63.10%
New Juaben South Municipal	11,271	3,830	7,441	34.00%	66.00%
New Juaben North Municipal	9,308	3,344	5,964	35.90%	64.10%
Suhum Municipal	23,909	9,361	14,548	39.20%	60.80%
Abuakwa North Municipal	13,356	5,006	8,350	37.50%	62.50%
Abuakwa South Municipal	14,988	6,406	8,582	42.70%	57.30%
Denkyembuor	15,302	6,093	9,209	39.80%	60.20%
Akyemansa	25,196	10,318	14,878	41.00%	59.00%
Kwaebibirem Municipal	24,805	9,965	14,840	40.20%	59.80%
Birim North	17,609	7,344	10,265	41.70%	58.30%
Atiwa West	12,526	5,619	6,907	44.90%	55.10%
Atiwa East	12,972	5,664	7,308	43.70%	56.30%
Fanteakwa South	9,765	4,042	5,723	41.40%	58.60%
Yilo Krobo Municipal	25,929	9,597	16,332	37.00%	63.00%
Lower Manya Krobo Municipal	24,096	8,362	15,734	34.70%	65.30%
Asuogyaman	18,900	7,015	11,885	37.10%	62.90%
Upper Manya Krobo	24,962	10,718	14,244	42.90%	57.10%
Fanteakwa North	16,278	7,301	8,977	44.90%	55.10%
Kwahu South Municipal	19,089	7,916	11,173	41.50%	58.50%
Kwahu West Municipal	24,009	9,513	14,496	39.60%	60.40%
Kwahu East	18,997	8,131	10,866	42.80%	57.20%
Kwahu Afram Plains South	30,008	14,979	15,029	49.90%	50.10%
Kwahu Afram Plains North	28,103	14,472	13,631	51.50%	48.50%
Ashanti					
Amansie South	35,221	16,074	19,147	45.60%	54.40%
Amansie Central	27,396	11,962	15,434	43.70%	56.30%
Akrofuom	14,804	6,860	7,944	46.30%	53.70%
Adansi South	23,064	9,279	13,785	40.20%	59.80%
Adansi Asokwa	20,304	8,363	11,941	41.20%	58.80%
Obuasi East	14,306	5,351	8,955	37.40%	62.60%
Obuasi Municipal	12,845	4,391	8,454	34.20%	65.80%

District	Total	Male	Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Adansi North	9,833	3,873	5,960	39.40%	60.60%
Bekwai Municipal	24,658	8,924	15,734	36.20%	63.80%
Amansie West	29,327	12,550	16,777	42.80%	57.20%
Atwima Kwanwoma	31,864	12,273	19,591	38.50%	61.50%
Bosomtwi	22,913	8,135	14,778	35.50%	64.50%
Bosome Freho	17,772	7,202	10,570	40.50%	59.50%
Asante Akim Central Municipal	15,786	6,350	9,436	40.20%	59.80%
Asante Akim South Municipal	31,673	13,571	18,102	42.80%	57.20%
Asante Akim North Municipal	20,718	8,884	11,834	42.90%	57.10%
Sekyere Kumawu	13,090	5,072	8,018	38.70%	61.30%
Sekyere East	12,874	5,091	7,783	39.50%	60.50%
Juaben Municipal	14,046	5,738	8,308	40.90%	59.10%
Ejisu Municipal	26,943	9,805	17,138	36.40%	63.60%
Oforikrom Municipal	21,529	7,529	14,000	35.00%	65.00%
Asokwa Municipal	13,484	4,450	9,034	33.00%	67.00%
Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly	48,041	16,664	31,377	34.70%	65.30%
Kwadaso Municipal	13,021	4,113	8,908	31.60%	68.40%
Suame Municipal	14,098	4,419	9,679	31.30%	68.70%
Old Tafo Municipal	13,412	4,469	8,943	33.30%	66.70%
Asokore Mampong Municipal	37,038	13,371	23,667	36.10%	63.90%
Kwabre East	38,251	13,869	24,382	36.30%	63.70%
Afigya Kwabre South	31,504	12,126	19,378	38.50%	61.50%
Atwima Nwabiagya North	24,396	9,862	14,534	40.40%	59.60%
Atwima Nwabiagya South Municipal	22,396	8,536	13,860	38.10%	61.90%
Atwima Mponua	45,371	20,153	25,218	44.40%	55.60%
Ahafo Ano South West	20,670	9,133	11,537	44.20%	55.80%
Ahafo Ano North Municipal	23,108	10,053	13,055	43.50%	56.50%
Ahafo Ano South East	20,459	9,035	11,424	44.20%	55.80%
Offinso North	31,198	13,704	17,494	43.90%	56.10%
Offinso Municipal	34,107	14,087	20,020	41.30%	58.70%
Afigya Kwabre North	17,584	7,373	10,211	41.90%	58.10%
Sekyere South	21,298	8,103	13,195	38.00%	62.00%
Mampong Municipal	24,107	10,100	14,007	41.90%	58.10%
Ejura Sekyedumase Municipal	49,399	21,356	28,043	43.20%	56.80%
Sekyere Central	24,179	10,708	13,471	44.30%	55.70%
Sekyere Afram Plains	16,779	8,526	8,253	50.80%	49.20%
Western North					
Aowin Municipal	50,134	23,937	26,197	47.70%	52.30%
Sefwi Akontombra	24,114	10,925	13,189	45.30%	54.70%
Suaman	11,991	5,940	6,051	49.50%	50.50%
Bodi	22,658	9,990	12,668	44.10%	55.90%
Sefwi Wiawso Municipal	38,497	16,036	22,461	41.70%	58.30%
Bibiani Anhwiaso Bekwai Municipal	39,907	16,008	23,899	40.10%	59.90%
Juaboso	29,528	13,426	16,102	45.50%	54.50%
Bia West	42,460	19,761	22,699	46.50%	53.50%
Bia East	19,265	9,032	10,233	46.90%	53.10%

District	Total	Male	Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Ahafo					
Asunafo South	26,493	11,731	14,762	44.30%	55.70%
Asunafo North Municipal	39,586	17,638	21,948	44.60%	55.40%
Asutifi South	19,929	8,970	10,959	45.00%	55.00%
Asutifi North	18,794	8,469	10,325	45.10%	54.90%
Tano North Municipal	21,908	9,370	12,538	42.80%	57.20%
Tano South Municipal	24,372	10,447	13,925	42.90%	57.10%
Bono					
Dormaa West	14,423	6,745	7,678	46.80%	53.20%
Dormaa Central Municipal	24,994	9,877	15,117	39.50%	60.50%
Dormaa East	16,759	6,798	9,961	40.60%	59.40%
Sunyani Municipal	28,006	11,527	16,479	41.20%	58.80%
Sunyani West Municipal	28,330	11,921	16,409	42.10%	57.90%
Berekum East Municipal	15,663	5,352	10,311	34.20%	65.80%
Berekum West	11,329	4,084	7,245	36.00%	64.00%
Jaman South	28,550	11,326	17,224	39.70%	60.30%
Jaman North	31,142	12,391	18,751	39.80%	60.20%
Tain	42,235	18,787	23,448	44.50%	55.50%
Wenchi Municipal	42,124	18,422	23,702	43.70%	56.30%
Banda	11,732	5,602	6,130	47.70%	52.30%
Bono East					
Nkoranza South Municipal	34,349	15,062	19,287	43.80%	56.20%
Techiman Municipal	57,462	23,822	33,640	41.50%	58.50%
Nkoranza North	19,620	8,893	10,727	45.30%	54.70%
Techiman North	27,555	11,425	16,130	41.50%	58.50%
Atebubu Amantin Municipal	59,415	27,019	32,396	45.50%	54.50%
Sene West	33,218	15,373	17,845	46.30%	53.70%
Sene East	35,965	18,343	17,622	51.00%	49.00%
Pru West	32,745	14,975	17,770	45.70%	54.30%
Pru East	44,709	20,607	24,102	46.10%	53.90%
Kintampo South	36,255	16,938	19,317	46.70%	53.30%
Kintampo North Municipal	56,389	25,443	30,946	45.10%	54.90%
Oti					
Biakoye	22,512	9,942	12,570	44.20%	55.80%
Jasikan Municipal	14,510	6,342	8,168	43.70%	56.30%
Kadjebi	21,183	9,093	12,090	42.90%	57.10%
Krachi East Municipal	48,059	22,422	25,637	46.70%	53.30%
Krachi West Municipal	25,155	11,774	13,381	46.80%	53.20%
Krachi Nchumuru	38,203	17,334	20,869	45.40%	54.60%
Nkwanta South Municipal	60,865	27,071	33,794	44.50%	55.50%
Nkwanta North (Kpassa)	69,270	31,727	37,543	45.80%	54.20%
Guan	4,992	2,044	2,948	40.90%	59.10%

District	Total	Male	Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Northern					
Kpandai	64,398	29,225	35,173	45.40%	54.60%
Nanumba South	58,488	26,283	32,205	44.90%	55.10%
Nanumba North Municipal	100,046	44,168	55,878	44.10%	55.90%
Zabzugu	46,203	20,463	25,740	44.30%	55.70%
Tatale Sanguli	40,934	18,344	22,590	44.80%	55.20%
Saboba	43,917	19,185	24,732	43.70%	56.30%
Yendi Municipal	71,415	30,169	41,246	42.20%	57.80%
Mion	57,646	26,525	31,121	46.00%	54.00%
Nanton	27,942	12,005	15,937	43.00%	57.00%
Tamale Metropolitan Assembly	123,455	50,372	73,083	40.80%	59.20%
Sagnarigu Municipal	94,006	37,518	56,488	39.90%	60.10%
Tolon	66,159	29,521	36,638	44.60%	55.40%
Kumbungu	56,077	24,136	31,941	43.00%	57.00%
Savelugu Municipal	60,689	25,837	34,852	42.60%	57.40%
Karaga	69,495	30,900	38,595	44.50%	55.50%
Gushegu Municipal	92,056	41,521	50,535	45.10%	54.90%
Savannah					
Bole	56,513	28,166	28,347	49.80%	50.20%
Sawla Tuna Kalba	66,172	28,571	37,601	43.20%	56.80%
North Gonja	36,881	17,502	19,379	47.50%	52.50%
West Gonja	25,501	12,004	13,497	47.10%	52.90%
Central Gonja	81,261	38,871	42,390	47.80%	52.20%
East Gonja Municipal	60,387	29,286	31,101	48.50%	51.50%
North East Gonja	23,615	11,378	12,237	48.20%	51.80%
North East					
Mamprugu Moagduri	40,473	19,064	21,409	47.10%	52.90%
West Mamprusi Municipal	82,262	36,538	45,724	44.40%	55.60%
East Mamprusi Municipal	98,293	43,631	54,662	44.40%	55.60%
Bunkpurugu Nakpanduri	31,770	12,496	19,274	39.30%	60.70%
Yunyoo Nasuan	32,999	14,770	18,229	44.80%	55.20%
Chereponi	49,085	22,256	26,829	45.30%	54.70%
Upper East					
Builsa South	18,682	9,232	9,450	49.40%	50.60%
Builsa North Municipal	22,586	10,535	12,051	46.60%	53.40%
Kasena Nankana Municipal	32,647	13,767	18,880	42.20%	57.80%
Kasena Nankana West	37,336	16,161	21,175	43.30%	56.70%
Bolgatanga Municipal	39,465	16,275	23,190	41.20%	58.80%
Talensi	35,409	16,102	19,307	45.50%	54.50%
Bolgatanga East	12,504	5,177	7,327	41.40%	58.60%
Bongo	53,342	22,802	30,540	42.70%	57.30%
Nabdam	24,181	11,448	12,733	47.30%	52.70%
Bawku West	74,798	33,826	40,972	45.20%	54.80%
Binduri	40,396	17,668	22,728	43.70%	56.30%

District	Total	Male	Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Bawku Municipal	49,713	20,681	29,032	41.60%	58.40%
Garu	36,894	15,764	21,130	42.70%	57.30%
Tempane	47,667	20,268	27,399	42.50%	57.50%
Pusiga	44,153	19,210	24,943	43.50%	56.50%
Upper West					
Wa West	54,974	23,333	31,641	42.40%	57.60%
Wa East	53,226	25,839	27,387	48.50%	51.50%
Wa Municipal	54,484	21,728	32,756	39.90%	60.10%
Nadowli Kaleo	34,105	14,513	19,592	42.60%	57.40%
Daffiama Bussie Issa	21,566	9,831	11,735	45.60%	54.40%
Sissala East Municipal	36,973	17,671	19,302	47.80%	52.20%
Sissala West	31,815	14,570	17,245	45.80%	54.20%
Jirapa Municipal	44,829	19,811	25,018	44.20%	55.80%
Lawra Municipal	26,943	11,888	15,055	44.10%	55.90%
Lambussie Karni	25,646	11,274	14,372	44.00%	56.00%
Nandom	22,506	10,212	12,294	45.40%	54.60%

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2021 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS

GHANA

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