



# Ghana



## KEY FACTS

Joined Commonwealth:	1957
Population:	24,966,000 (2011)
GDP p.c. growth:	2.5% p.a. 1990–2011
UN HDI 2012:	World ranking 135
Net primary enrolment:	82.6% (2012)
Net secondary enrolment:	46.3% (2009)
Gross tertiary enrolment:	12.3% (2012)
Adult literacy:	71.5% (2011)

## Geography

Area:	238,537 sq km
Coastline:	539 km
Capital:	Accra

The Republic of Ghana, formerly the Gold Coast, is a West African country lying on the Gulf of Guinea. It is surrounded (clockwise, from the west) by Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Togo.

Ghana has ten regions: Greater Accra, Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Central, Eastern, Northern, Upper East, Upper West, Volta and Western. After Greater Accra, Ashanti is the most populated region; Upper West, the least.

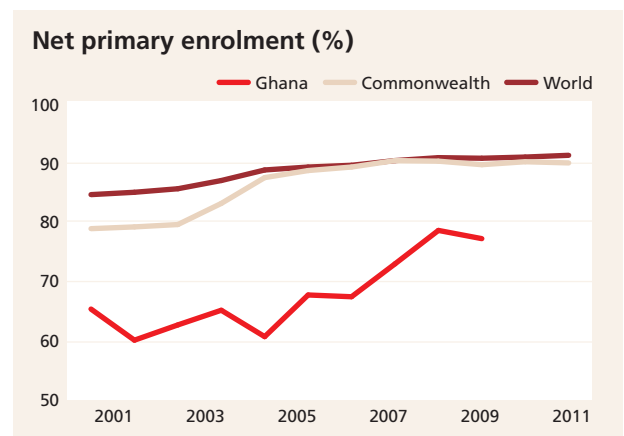
## Society

Population per sq km:	105
Life expectancy:	64 years
Official language:	English

**Population:** 24,966,000 (2011); 52 per cent live in urban areas and 17 per cent in urban agglomerations of more than a million people; growth 2.5 per cent p.a. 1990–2011; birth rate 31 per 1,000 people (47 in 1970); life expectancy 64 years (49 in 1970).

The population is predominantly of African groups: Akan (45 per cent in 2000 census), Mole–Dagbani (15 per cent), Ewe (12 per cent), Ga-Adangbe (7 per cent), Guan (four per cent), Gurma (four per cent), Grusi (three per cent). There are very small minorities of other races.

**Language:** The official language is English. The principal indigenous language group is Akan, of which Twi and Fanti are the most commonly used forms. Ga is spoken in the Accra region, Ewe in Volta, and the Mole–Dagbani language group in northern Ghana.





# MOUNTCREST UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

*The institution of first choice for both staff and students*

MountCrest University College (MCU) was established by Mr and Mrs Kwaku Ansa-Asare in August 2008. It was granted accreditation by the National Accreditation Board to run both graduate and undergraduate programmes on 1 January 2011.

MCU intends to become an institution of first choice for both staff and students by providing cutting-edge research, relevant teaching and learning, and proactive extension activities through its vision of becoming 'a world-class teaching and research university, educating for life and addressing the challenges facing contemporary society' and its mission of 'training and preparing a new generation of graduates in body, mind and spirit, for the transformation of society'.

#### **MountCrest University College currently has four Faculties and Schools:**

- Faculty of Law
- School of Medical and Health Sciences
- School of Publishing and Communication Studies
- School of Research and Graduate Studies.

MCU is the only private university in Ghana which has mounted a programme in Law at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

In the near future we will open new campuses and launch new faculties and programmes in arts and social sciences, business administration, agriculture and science and the built environment.

Our student population, which is currently about 1,000, is from both Ghana and other African countries and there are excellent opportunities for teaching, learning and research for career development. We intend to increase the number to 5,000 within the next three years.

MCU has links with the Michigan State University and Fordham Law School in the US to promote staff-student exchange and research collaboration. Other links are in development.

#### **Principal Officers of the University:**

**President:** H.E. Judge Akua Kuenyehia of the International Criminal Court, The Hague  
**Chairman of Council:** Professor W.C. Ekow Daniels  
**Rector:** Professor Joseph R.A. Ayee

The Faculty of Law consists of experienced and world-renowned scholars such as Professor Justice VCRAC Crabbe, Professor Justice A.K.P Kludze, Professor E.K. Quansah and Professor Kwame Frimpong. Dr Samuel Akortey Akor is currently the Dean of the School of Medical and Health Sciences.



**MOUNTCREST**  
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MCU is affiliated to the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi

**Religion:** Christians 69 per cent in 2000 census, Muslims 16 per cent, and traditional animist religions are often practised alongside both of these religions.

**Health:** Public spending on health was three per cent of GDP in 2010. Public hospital and other medical care is provided at nominal rates. As well as public hospitals and clinics, some are private and some operated by religious missions. Eighty-six per cent of the population use an improved drinking water source and 14 per cent have adequate sanitation facilities (2010). Infant mortality was 52 per 1,000 live births in 2011 (126 in 1960). AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis pose serious problems, and there have been cases of yellow fever, bilharzia and intestinal worms in rural areas. In 2011, 1.5 per cent of people aged 15–49 were HIV positive.

**Media:** *Daily Graphic* and *Ghanaian Times* (both state-owned), *The Ghanaian Chronicle* and *Daily Guide* are daily newspapers. *Ghana Palaver*, *The Independent*, *The Mail* (bi-weekly), *The Mirror* and *Sunday Herald* are weeklies.

Ghana Broadcasting Corporation is the public TV and radio provider, broadcasting in Ghanaian languages and English; many private radio stations and TV channels are also available, particularly in the urban areas.

Some 39 per cent of households have TV sets (2007). There are 11 personal computers per 1,000 people (2008).

**Communications:** Country code 233; internet domain '.gh'. Mobile phone coverage is good around main towns but patchy elsewhere. Internet connections exist in most towns and speeds are increasing.

There are 11 main telephone lines, 848 mobile phone subscriptions and 141 internet users per 1,000 people (2011).

## Education

### Governance

Ministry of Education

Accra

Tel: +233 302 66 2772

Minister: Professor Jane Nana Opoku Agyemang

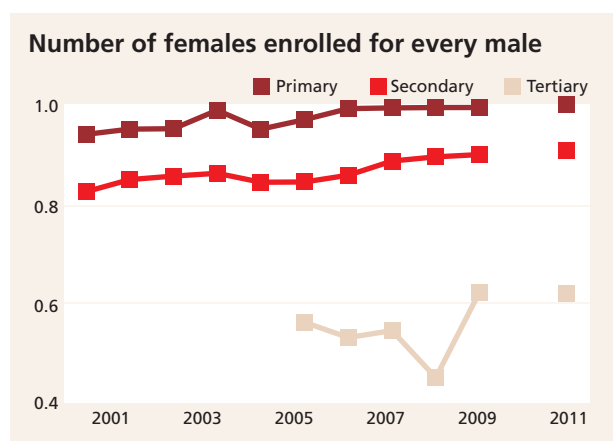
National Accreditation Board

Accra

Tel: +233 302 51 8570

Executive secretary: Kwame Dattey

Email: nabsec@nab.gov.gh



# RADFORD UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Determination | Endurance | Achievement



Radford University College is one of the first private tertiary institutions to introduce Science Programs in Ghana to improve the quality of life in the West Africa sub region through teaching, learning and research for the advancement of knowledge in the areas of Applied Science, Graphic Communication, Business Administration and Allied Health.

### OUR VISION

To become a University of choice, creating entities that will enhance the Ghanaian ability to capture worldwide market share and academic prominence.

### OUR MISSION

To provide unique structures and programs that facilitate the creation of entrepreneurs, high quality professionals and qualified Applied Science graduates capable of meeting the needs of Ghana and the world.

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website: [www.radforduc.edu.gh](http://www.radforduc.edu.gh)



# Jackson Educational Complex

*The First and Leading Private Distance Learning College of Education in Ghana*

The Jackson Educational Complex (JEC) is an educational institution established in 2009 by Prof. Ebenezer A. Jackson and Mrs Theodosia W. Jackson, both retired educationists with a combined experience of 91 years behind them in public educational institutions.

JEC aims to fill the void of teacher supply in the country by providing a diploma programme in basic education through distance learning. It hopes to further expand into other areas such as pre-school and degree programmes to give them skills which provide hope for a brighter future.

The College has been accredited by the National Accreditation Board of Ghana and is affiliated with the University of Education, Winneba (UEW).

## Enrolment

The current student enrolment for the 2012/2013 academic year is 5,570 made up of 3,095 males and 2,475 females. There are now 34 study centres spread across all the 10 regions of Ghana.

JEC employs an average number of 700 part-time tutors, 37 centre supervisors and 7 zonal co-ordinators.

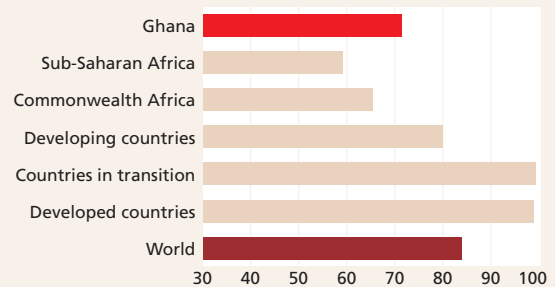


above: Some full time members of staff



left: Prof. Ebenezer A. Jackson, Director; and Mrs Theodosia W. Jackson, Principal

## Adult literacy (%)



Public examinations are managed by the West African Examinations Council, which was established in 1952 by four Commonwealth governments, The Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone, with its headquarters in Accra, Ghana. The council conducts exams in all member countries for senior secondary school leavers (the West African Senior School Certificate Examination); and on a national basis for junior secondary school leavers and business studies students. It also conducts the exams of certain foreign professional bodies and exam boards.

## Policy and plans

Public spending on education was 8.2 per cent of GDP in 2011.

The Education Strategic Plan 2003–2015 embodies targets and strategies aimed at achieving the Education for All goals. Ghana qualified for the World Bank's Fast Track Initiative – known since September 2011 as the Global Partnership for Education – which is aimed at meeting the education Millennium Development Goals and the Education for All goal that by 2015 all children complete a full cycle of primary education. Under the initiative, developing countries have committed to designing and implementing sound education plans since 2002, while development partners commit to aligning and harmonising additional support around these plans.

In 2005 the Ministry of Education began to make capitation grants to all basic schools and abolished school fees for basic education. This immediately resulted in a marked growth in school enrolments and a narrowing of gender gaps, at all levels of basic education, and particularly in nursery schools.

The education ministry is working in partnership with other governmental and non-governmental organisations to achieve sector-wide goals and objectives. One such organisation is the Ghana National Education Campaign Coalition, a network of about 200 civil society organisations, institutions and practitioners working to promote quality basic education for all Ghanaian children.

## Schools

Gross enrolment overall:	66.9% (2012)
Primary female–male ratio:	0.95:1 (2012)
Secondary female–male ratio:	0.90:1 (2012)
Primary pupil–teacher ratio:	33:1 (2012)
Secondary pupil–teacher ratio:	18:1 (2012)

There are 11 years of compulsory education starting at the age of four. Primary school comprises six years and secondary seven, with cycles of three and four years. Some 72 per cent of pupils complete primary school (2008). The school year starts in September.

## Tertiary

The longest established public universities are the University of Ghana (Legon, Accra, established 1948); Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Kumasi, 1952); University of Cape Coast (1962); University for Development Studies (main campus at Tamale, 1992); University of Education (Winneba, 1992); and University of Mines and Technology (Tarkwa, 2004). Other major tertiary institutions include the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (Achimota, Accra, 1961). There are also many teacher-training colleges, polytechnics and specialised tertiary institutions; and many private universities. The female-male ratio for gross enrolment in tertiary education is 0.60:1 (2012). Literacy among people aged 15-24 is 81 per cent (2010).

## Pan-Commonwealth

In 1977 Ghana hosted the Seventh Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers in Accra. Commonwealth education ministers meet every three years to discuss issues of mutual concern and interest.

Responding to the acute demand for trained teachers in rural areas, the Ministry of Education engaged in distance education as a cost-effective and efficient way of training untrained teachers, enabling a large number to become qualified within a reasonable period of time. This initiative was shortlisted for the 2006 Commonwealth Education Good Practice Awards.

## Further information

Government of Ghana: [www.ghana.gov.gh](http://www.ghana.gov.gh)

Commonwealth Secretariat: [www.thecommonwealth.org](http://www.thecommonwealth.org)

Commonwealth Education Online: [www.cedol.org](http://www.cedol.org)

## Education institutions

Ministry of Education: [www.moe.gov.gh](http://www.moe.gov.gh)

National Accreditation Board: [www.nab.gov.gh](http://www.nab.gov.gh)

West African Examinations Council: [www.ghanawaec.org](http://www.ghanawaec.org)

Central University College: [central.edu.gh](http://central.edu.gh)

Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration: [www.gimpa.edu.gh](http://www.gimpa.edu.gh)

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology: [www.knust.edu.gh/pages](http://www.knust.edu.gh/pages)

University for Development Studies: [www.uds.edu.gh](http://www.uds.edu.gh)

University of Cape Coast: [www.ucc.edu.gh](http://www.ucc.edu.gh)

University of Ghana: [www.ug.edu.gh](http://www.ug.edu.gh)

University of Mines and Technology: [www.umat.edu.gh](http://www.umat.edu.gh)

University of Professional Studies: [www.ips.edu.gh](http://www.ips.edu.gh)

Valley View University: [www.vvu.edu.gh](http://www.vvu.edu.gh)

Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration: [www.gimpa.edu.gh](http://www.gimpa.edu.gh)

Ghana National Education Campaign Coalition: [www.gnecc.org](http://www.gnecc.org)



# School for Life

Ghana

Literacy Programme for Out-of-School Children



**School for Life (SfL) works to strengthen civil society's role in improving access to relevant, quality, basic education by functioning as a lead organisation in delivery, demonstrating and advocating for mother tongue-based Complementary Basic Education (CBE) in underserved areas of Ghana.**

CBE involves a nine month programme of community-based classes, led by volunteer facilitators for 25 students between 8-14 years of age, teaching basic functional literacy and numeracy skills in the mother tongue of students. Following the programme, approximately 80 per cent of **SfL** graduates progress into formal school to continue their education.



Since its inception in 1995, over 170,000 children have benefited directly from the programme, through gaining access to education. **SfL** has since expanded their role in service delivery to advocate for changes to educational policy including the implementation of CBE policy by the Government of Ghana, and to demonstrate and promote the CBE model.

**Email:** [sfl@vodafone.com.gh](mailto:sfl@vodafone.com.gh)

**[www.schoolforlifegh.org](http://www.schoolforlifegh.org)**

**School for Life works to improve and sustain access to and the quality of basic education in Ghana through functional literacy and advocacy as a means to address poverty, under-development and gender inequality.**