

Profile of the Volta Region

The Volta Region is one of Ghana's ten administrative regions and is located to the east of Lake Volta. The region stretches across all the vegetational zones of the country, from the Atlantic coast in the south to the north. The population of the region grew from 2,106,696 in 2000 to 2,118,252 in 2010. With a growth rate of 2.5%, the population of the region is estimated to increase to 3.8 million by 2040. A little over 48.0% of the population are males and females represents 59.1% of the population. The age structure of the population of the region indicates that, the population aged 0 - 14 (under 15 years) constitute 38.4%, and those aged 15 - 64 and 65+ represent 55.1% and 6.5% of the population respectively.

The region occupies a total land area of 20,570 sq. km, which makes it the fifth largest among the regions in terms of land size. It has a population density of 103 people per sq. km. The region is 33.7% urban with an annual urban growth rate of 4.7%. The Volta region experiences more outflows of people to other parts of the country than people migrating into the region. This therefore gave the region a negative net migration value of -535,671 in 2010. With regards to the economy, the labour force participation rate for population aged 15 - 64 is almost 72.0%.

The region recorded the highest Infant Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under age one) in 2011. Sixty-eight infant deaths per 1,000 live births were recorded in that year. Child Mortality Rate (deaths of children between age one and four) was 22 deaths per 1,000 live births and Under Five Mortality Rate (number of children who die by age five) was reported as 89 deaths per 1,000 live births. The Maternal Mortality Rate, which relates the number of deaths due to pregnancy related causes to the number of women of the child-bearing age group (15 - 49 years), was 706 per 100,000 live births in 2010, higher than the national average of 485 per 100,000 live births.

The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of the region is slightly lower (3.6) as compared to the national TFR of 4.0. Thus on average, a woman in the Volta Region gives birth to four children as do all women in Ghana. In addition there are four births per every 100 adolescents in the region, which is among the highest compared to other regions of the country. The use of modern contraceptives among married women (29.5%, 2014) in region is the highest in the country. In 2013, the HIV prevalence rate was reported at 1.2%, lower than the national HIV prevalence of 1.3%.

For more information, contact the regional office.

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