



Country Intelligence Brief

Ghana

Overall Risk Rating

2.50 - Moderate

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Ratings Overview

Security

2.75 - Moderate

Civil Unrest	2.75
Crime	3.00
Kidnapping	2.00
Terrorism	2.25
Armed Conflict	1.25
Security Services	4.00

Infrastructure

3.00 - Moderate

Ground Transport	3.25
Cyber	3.00
Maritime	4.00
Air Travel	2.50
Utilities	2.75

Environment

2.50 - Moderate

Man-Made Hazards	2.00
Seismic	1.50
Storm Systems	2.50
Natural Hazards	2.50

Health and Medical

3.75 - High

Disease and Health Threats	2.75
Medical Facilities and Services	4.50
Mental Health	2.50
Food and Water Safety	4.25

Political

2.25 - Low

Corruption	3.25
Government Stability	2.25
Rule of Law	2.50
Sanctions	1.75

LGBTQ Security

5.00 - Extreme

LGBTQ Legal Environment	5.00
LGBTQ Enforcement	4.00
LGBTQ Social Environment	5.00

FactBox

Location	Ghana
Government Type	Presidential Republic
Population	35,064,272 (2025)
Languages	Official Language: English. Other languages that are considered official or widely spoken: Akan (Ashante, Fante and Twi dialects), Boron (Brong), Dagomba, Dangme, Dagarte, Ewe, Ga, Kokomba, Akyem. Languages that should only be used discreetly: None.
International Country Code	+233
Time Zones	UTC
Traffic	Drives on the right
Drinking Water	Not Safe to Drink

Overview

2.50 - Moderate

Ghana remains one of West Africa's more stable operating environments. Peaceful transfers of power since the return to multiparty rule continue to support institutional resilience, and President John Dramani Mahama's return to office after the December 2024 elections has not altered the country's broad stability outlook. The government is likely to remain focused on economic repair, fiscal consolidation, anti-corruption messaging, and job creation through 2026.

The main operational risks for foreign travelers are crime, road traffic accidents, health hazards, and localized civil or communal unrest. Opportunistic crime remains the most likely security incident in Accra, Kumasi, Tamale, Cape Coast, and other urban centers, while armed robbery and burglary pose a more serious but less frequent threat, including in expatriate and higher-income areas. Overland travel remains a major safety concern because of poor driving standards, weak enforcement, and uneven road conditions outside primary corridors.

The terrorism threat remains lower than in many neighboring states, but Ghana's northern border areas are more exposed to spillover from militant activity in Burkina Faso and to localized instability linked to the Bawku chieftaincy conflict. Infrastructure is generally adequate in Accra and other major cities, including airports, ports, telecoms, and main roads, but service reliability and road quality decline in rural areas. Power interruptions, cybercrime, and payment fraud remain relevant business-continuity concerns.

Security

2.75 - Moderate

Ghana's security environment remains broadly stable, but the threat picture is uneven. Crime is the main threat to foreign nationals, especially in larger urban centers, transport hubs, markets, nightlife districts, beaches, and areas with limited lighting. Most incidents involving travelers are opportunistic, but armed robbery, burglary, and vehicle-related theft occur and can involve weapons.

Civil and labor unrest remains episodic and usually localized. Demonstrations in Accra and other urban centers can disrupt traffic and business operations, while student, labor, and cost-of-living protests can escalate if security forces intervene or if rival groups confront one another. Northern Ghana carries a distinct localized risk from chieftaincy and communal disputes, especially around Bawku and neighboring communities.

Ghana has not experienced a terrorist attack, but the regional trend remains unfavorable. Militant activity in Burkina Faso and pressure along the Sahelian border belt continue to elevate the threat in the Upper East, Upper West, and western Savannah regions. Security forces have increased northern deployments and cross-border coordination, but border communities and remote roads remain more exposed than Accra and the southern coastal belt.

Civil Unrest

● 2.75

Current situation

Civil and labor unrest remains a recurring but manageable risk in Ghana. Demonstrations are most common in Accra, especially around Obra Spot near the Kwame Nkrumah Interchange, Independence Square, government ministries, Parliament, party offices, and court buildings. Protests are usually well policed and peaceful, but they can still block roads, disrupt central Accra, or escalate if security forces use force, if counterprotests appear, or if demonstrators attempt to march toward sensitive government sites.

Cost-of-living pressure, employment grievances, public-sector wage disputes, fuel and utility pricing, and anti-corruption issues will remain the most likely triggers of urban demonstrations through 2026. Labor action by teachers, healthcare workers, civil servants, and transport operators can disrupt services but is usually announced in advance. In northern Ghana, communal and chieftaincy tensions remain the more serious unrest driver, particularly in Bawku, where curfews, security deployments, and sporadic violence can affect movement with little warning.

Triggers:

- Sharp increases in food, fuel, utility, or transport costs.
- Labor strikes, wage arrears, allowance disputes, or public-sector reform measures.
- Student protests and campus-related grievances.
- Anti-corruption campaigns, high-profile prosecutions, or perceived selective enforcement.
- Election-related developments, by-elections, party rallies, or disputed local results.
- Chieftaincy, land, or communal disputes, especially in northern Ghana.
- Heavy-handed security-force intervention or arrests of activists.

Background

Civil and labor unrest occur occasionally in Ghana. In Accra, demonstrations are often held at Obra Spot, on Kwame Nkrumah Interchange, or outside key buildings, depending on their purpose. Rallies are, for the most part, well-policed and orderly. However, protests by students over socio-economic grievances, such as the price of basic goods or election-related matters, can be more boisterous and descend into violence.

Work stoppages are relatively rare in Ghana, although in recent years, university teachers and health sector workers have engaged in disruptive strike actions to press for higher wages and allowances.

Northern Ghana is susceptible to sporadic tribal clashes stemming from chieftaincy disputes. However, such unrest is largely localized and short-lived and unlikely to impact foreign travelers. In some areas of Ghana, however, curfews have sometimes been in effect for years over longstanding grievances and communal disputes. Travelers should confirm curfews and local security conditions before movement in affected areas.

Crime

● 3.00

Crime remains a significant concern in Ghana, especially in Accra and other large population centers. Foreign travelers are most likely to face opportunistic theft, including pickpocketing, bag-snatching, mugging, vehicle break-ins, and theft of unattended items in markets, transport hubs, nightlife areas, beaches, tourist sites, and crowded commercial districts. Criminals also target pedestrians and passengers in slow-moving traffic, especially at night or in poorly lit areas.

Violent crime is less common than petty theft but remains operationally relevant. Armed robberies, residential burglaries, and occasional assaults occur in Accra neighborhoods that host expatriates and business travelers, including Airport Residential Area, East Legon, Osu, Cantonments, Labone, and parts of Nima, as well as in other urban centers. Criminals may operate in groups and may carry firearms or machetes. Risk increases after dark, in isolated areas, and during travel without vetted transport.

Taxi-related robbery remains a concern. Some incidents involve passengers being taken to isolated locations or gas stations where accomplices rob them. Theft from parked vehicles is common; travelers should keep valuables out of sight and avoid leaving electronics, bags, or documents unattended.

Fraud and cyber-enabled crime remain persistent. Credit-card skimming, payment diversion, romance scams, business email compromise, false investment schemes, and fake charity solicitations occur. Card use is safer in higher-end hotels, restaurants, and established retailers, but cash and mobile-money transactions remain common.

Kidnapping

 2.00

Kidnapping risk remains low in Ghana. Criminally motivated kidnappers are more likely to target local nationals than foreign travelers, and abductions do not represent a routine threat in Accra or other major cities. Where kidnapping occurs, it is usually opportunistic, financially motivated, and short duration.

The risk is somewhat higher in northern border areas because of proximity to militant activity in Burkina Faso, weaker state presence in some remote communities, and the potential for criminal banditry.

Terrorism

 2.25

Ghana has no history of terrorist attacks and no known domestic terrorist organization with an established national presence. The terrorism threat nevertheless remains elevated by regional dynamics. Militant groups active in Burkina Faso and the wider Sahel have expanded pressure on coastal West African states, and Ghana's northern border remains the country's primary exposure point.

The most credible short-to-medium-term threat is infiltration, reconnaissance, smuggling, or low-complexity attacks affecting border communities, security posts, or roads in the Upper East, Upper West, and western Savannah regions. Accra and other southern cities face a lower-probability but higher-consequence threat because of their concentration of government sites, diplomatic missions, hotels, transport nodes, and expatriate activity.

The government has strengthened northern deployments, regional intelligence sharing, and counterterrorism cooperation. These measures reduce but do not eliminate the risk.

Armed Conflict

 1.25

Ghana faces a low risk of interstate or nationwide armed conflict. The country maintains generally cooperative relations with Cote d'Ivoire, Togo, Burkina Faso, and other regional partners and remains active in the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and regional security initiatives.

The main conflict-related risk is localized rather than national. Chieftaincy and communal disputes in northern Ghana, especially around Bawku, can produce armed clashes, curfews, and security deployments. These incidents can be serious for local communities and travelers in the immediate area, but they are unlikely to affect regime stability or operations in Accra, Kumasi, or southern coastal areas.

External spillover from Burkina Faso remains the more important forward-looking security concern. Ghana is unlikely to face conventional conflict with a neighboring state, but militant expansion, refugee flows, trafficking, and criminal networks can strain security resources in northern border areas.

Security Services

 4.00

Responsiveness is adequate in major cities but weaker in rural and remote areas. The Ghana Police Service is the primary law-enforcement body and usually handles routine criminality, traffic incidents, and public-order matters. Police generally speak English and local languages. Response times are more reliable in Accra, Kumasi, Tamale, and other regional capitals than in smaller towns and rural districts.

Interaction with Travelers

Travelers who need assistance should contact the police and notify their diplomatic mission where appropriate. Foreign travelers, expatriates, and local staff are most likely to interact with the Ghana Police Service in routine incidents, but serious incidents can also involve the Criminal Investigations Department, immigration officers, military personnel, or joint security teams, especially in northern Ghana or at checkpoints.

Law Enforcement Reliability

Law-enforcement reliability remains moderate. Police can provide basic assistance, but corruption, informal payment requests, and uneven professionalism remain concerns. Drivers may encounter police checkpoints, especially outside major cities and near borders.

Infrastructure

3.00 - Moderate

There are no safety concerns over air travel.

Road travel in Ghana is complicated by varying road conditions and poor driving standards, contributing to frequent traffic accidents.

The ports in Ghana are considered efficient.

Ghana has experienced recurrent power outages in recent years.

Internet-based fraud and scams are prevalent in Ghana, which has one of the highest internet penetration rates on the continent. Ghana has a weak defense to cyber attacks.

Ground Transport

3.25

Ground transport remains one of the highest routine operational risks in Ghana. Primary roads between major cities are generally passable, but road quality, lighting, and maintenance vary widely. The Accra-Cape Coast corridor, the Accra-Kumasi route, and other high-volume intercity roads can experience serious accidents, congestion, and delays. Travel at night increases exposure to poor lighting, fatigue-related crashes, broken-down vehicles, pedestrians, animals, and crime.

Accidents are common because of speeding, unsafe overtaking, poor vehicle maintenance, inconsistent seatbelt use, and limited enforcement. Crowds can gather after accidents and may become agitated, especially if fatalities occur.

Police checkpoints are common and can slow journeys. Officers may search vehicles or request documents, and some may seek informal payments.

Local Buses

Unrated

Intercity buses connect most major cities and are widely used. Safety standards vary by operator, and accidents involving buses occur. Petty theft can occur at terminals and on crowded services. City buses and minibuses, including *trotros*, are available in most urban centers but can be crowded, poorly maintained, and inconsistently regulated.

Mass Transit

Unrated

Ghana does not have a metro system.

Taxis

Unrated

Taxis are readily available in major cities. Safety and vehicle condition vary, and some taxis lack functioning seatbelts or reliable maintenance.

App-based ride-hailing services are available in Accra and other major urban centers.

Train Travel

● Unrated

Passenger rail remains limited and is not a practical option for most travelers. Services exist on selected Accra-Tema and southern/western corridors, but coverage, frequency, and reliability remain limited compared with road transport.

Vehicles and Roads

● Unrated

Road safety conditions in Ghana are generally good. Traffic in Ghana drives on the right. Roads in urban areas are generally maintained. Roads in rural areas are generally poorly maintained. Foreigners planning to drive in Ghana must have an international driver's license. Car rentals are available in most major cities.

International Road Travel

Ghana has international road connections with Cote d'Ivoire, Togo, and Burkina Faso. Cross-border travel is subject to passport, customs, and security controls. Routes to Cote d'Ivoire and Togo are generally more manageable than routes toward Burkina Faso, where border insecurity, militant activity across the frontier, and localized communal unrest create additional security considerations.

Cyber

● 3.00

Geostrategic Concerns

The cybersecurity environment in Ghana presents an overall medium level of threat. This is shaped by the level of threat activity and its institutional capacity. Ghana faces minimal exposure to state-linked cyber espionage.

The legal and regulatory environment in Ghana is evolving, with key measures including the Cybersecurity Act, 2020 (Act 1038). These laws impose requirements on strengthening cybersecurity infrastructure, data protection, and incident response, but their effectiveness is assessed as medium, reflecting legislative and resource gaps. Institutional capacity is provided by the Cyber Security Authority (CSA), established by the Cybersecurity Act, which ensures strong coordination between government, private sector, and critical infrastructure providers. Overall, domestic digital infrastructure is moderately secure with protections weakest in artificial intelligence regulation.

Cybercrime

Cybercrime in Ghana is assessed as high threat. Common threats include online scams, ransomware, and online harassment, with individuals and multinational firms most vulnerable to compromise. Critical sectors, such as finance and telecommunications, are frequently targeted sectors. Law enforcement capacity is moderate, with authorities active in addressing cybercrime, and regulatory enforcement is uneven. Cooperation with international partners is growing as Ghana seeks to develop its capacity and capability-building efforts. Systemic resilience depends heavily on institutional factors, including the development of robust cybersecurity legislation and its enforcement.

Maritime

● 4.00

The ports of Takoradi and Tema in Ghana are under the threat of opportunistic criminal boardings. Deep offshore, Ghanaian seas suffer from pirates' action groups and hijackers coming from the Niger Delta. If the Ghanaian government tends to protect its coasts efficiently, regional and international cooperation are further needed to address the risk offshore.

Air Travel

2.50

There are no major safety concerns over air travel to or within Ghana. Kotoka International Airport (ACC) in Accra remains the country's primary international gateway and is served by regional and long-haul carriers. Domestic air services connect Accra with cities such as Kumasi, Tamale, Takoradi, Wa, and Sunyani, although schedules can change and weather or operational issues can cause delays.

Airport security and aviation oversight have improved in recent years. Travelers should still allow extra time for screening, immigration, and baggage processing during peak travel periods. Petty theft, baggage pilferage, and transport-related crime are more relevant than aviation safety for most travelers using airports.

Utilities

2.75

Utility reliability remains uneven. Ghana has high electricity access by regional standards, but outages, voltage fluctuations, planned maintenance, and localized distribution failures still occur. Businesses should maintain generators, uninterruptible power supplies, fuel plans, and continuity procedures, especially for critical sites and data systems.

Fuel supply is generally available in major cities and along primary corridors, but localized shortages, queues, or price-related disruptions can occur.

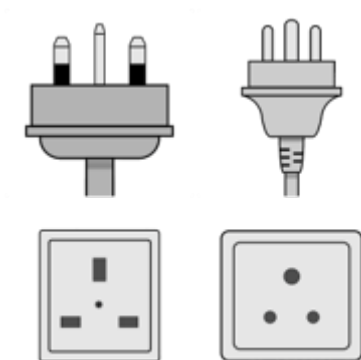
Telecommunications infrastructure is modern and reliable in Accra and most regional capitals. Mobile coverage is generally good in major cities and along key corridors, while rural and border areas can have weaker signal quality. Prepaid SIM cards and mobile data are widely available, but registration requirements apply. Internet service in hotels and offices is usually adequate in Accra, though speeds and reliability vary by provider and location.

Electricity

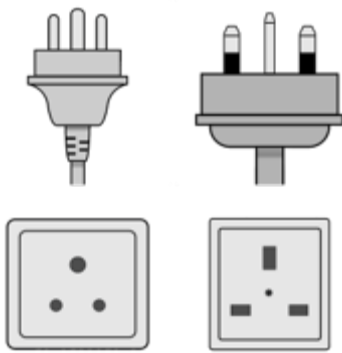
Unrated

Electricity is supplied in Ghana at 230 V, 50 Hz. Ghana uses Type D and G plugs.

Plug Types



Types de prises



Internet and Telecommunications

● Unrated

Internet service in Ghana is readily available in most accommodations, and internet cafes. Internet activity is considered private and secure in most areas - see Information Security advice sheet.

Environment

2.50 - Moderate

The climate of Ghana is tropical, with generally warm temperatures year-round and a distinct rainy season in the summer and dry season in the winter. There are slight climatic variations across the country, with the south generally wetter than the north. Flooding is common during the rainy season. Northern Ghana experiences the northeastern Harmattan winds that blow sand and dust from the Sahara into the Gulf of Guinea during the dry season December-March.

Man-Made Hazards

● 2.00

There are no significant manmade hazards in Ghana. Routine hazards such as road traffic accidents, industrial accidents, explosions, fires, and pollution are fairly common and can be exacerbated by rapid urbanization, inadequate infrastructure, and poor urban planning.

Seismic

● 1.50

Although Ghana is relatively far away from any major earthquake zones, minor-to-moderate tremors can periodically occur in the region, with southern regions most likely to be affected.

Storm Systems

● 2.50

Flooding is fairly common during the April-October rainy season, particularly in the Upper West, Upper East, and Northern Ghana regions. In rural areas, underdeveloped infrastructure such as roads and bridges, is particularly vulnerable, and roads in the affected areas commonly become impassable following heavy rains. Flooding is also a persistent problem in many urban areas and commonly occurs in Accra and other major cities, causing serious travel disruptions, as well as additional health and medical concerns from water-and mosquito-borne diseases.

Natural Hazards

● 2.50

Ghana has a tropical climate, with average temperatures ranging from around 23 C-32 C (73-90 F). Temperature variations are generally greater in the northern interior and are more stable in coastal areas. Ghana's rainy season generally runs April-October, with slight variations depending on location. December-March is typically dry across much of the country. Northern Ghana experiences the northeastern Harmattan winds January-March, that blow sand and dust from the Sahara into the Gulf of Guinea.

Air Quality

● Unrated

Air pollution routinely exceeds recommended thresholds in urban areas. Individuals with asthma or chronic cardiorespiratory conditions should consult with a healthcare provider and carry necessary medications. On days when air quality is particularly poor, affected individuals should take personal precautions to reduce respiratory stress.

Health and Medical

3.75 - High

Malaria and yellow fever are prevalent throughout Ghana. Standards of medical care and facilities in urban centers are adequate but limited outside of the capital. Access to essential health services is good across healthcare facilities. Cash payment upfront is required for all health services. Food and water safety is poor nationwide.

Disease and Health Threats

● 2.75

- **African Sleeping Sickness (Trypanosomiasis):** Transmitted through tsetse fly bites. There are two types of African Sleeping Sickness: East African and West African. The names are based on the region of Africa where they were historically found. East African Sleeping Sickness is more acute and affects the central nervous system earlier than West African Sleeping Sickness. If left untreated, both types of African Sleeping Sickness usually progress to death. The risk of infection exists in rural areas.
- **African Tick-Bite Fever:** Transmitted through tick bites. The symptoms usually develop within two weeks after a tick bite. Symptoms include fever, headache, and muscle soreness. Some individuals will develop a red sore with a dark center at the site of the tick bite. The risk of infection exists year-round nationwide; however, the risk is highest from April to September in rural areas.
- **Chikungunya:** Transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, mostly during daytime hours. Bite prevention is essential. Symptoms commonly include fever, joint pain, muscle pain, headache, and rash. People usually develop symptoms three to seven days after being bitten. Most people recover within a week, but joint pain can sometimes persist for months. The risk of infection exists year-round nationwide; however, the risk is highest during and immediately following the two rainy seasons, which typically occur from April to June and from September to November.
- **Cholera:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. Raw fish and shellfish from contaminated waters are likely to be infected. Most people infected with cholera have no symptoms or only mild diarrhea. However, approximately one in 10 infected patients develop severe cholera, which causes symptoms including profuse, watery diarrhea, vomiting, rapid heart rate, low blood pressure, muscle cramps, restlessness or irritability. Symptoms typically appear two to three days after exposure.
- **Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF):** Transmitted through the bite of an infected tick or through exposure to contaminated blood or tissue from infected animals or humans. Prevention of tick bites is essential. Symptoms appear one to nine days after exposure and include fever, neck pain, eyes sensitive to light, severe headache, nausea, confused or aggressive behavior, abdominal pain, and bleeding into the skin, mouth, and internal organs. There is no vaccination to prevent CCHF infection. The risk of infection exists year-round nationwide; however, the risk is highest from April to September in rural areas.

- **Dengue Fever:** Transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, mostly during daytime hours. Bite prevention is essential. Symptoms of dengue fever include a sudden onset of fever and at least one of the following: severe headache, severe pain behind the eyes, muscle and/or joint pain, rash, easy bruising, and/or nose or gum bleeding. Fever and other symptoms generally appear abruptly four to seven days after being bitten by an infected mosquito. Some people have reported experiencing no symptoms. The risk of infection exists year-round nationwide; however, the risk is highest during and immediately following the two rainy seasons, which typically occur from April to June and from September to November.
- **Hepatitis A:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. Hepatitis A does not always cause symptoms. If they occur, symptoms appear two to six weeks after exposure and include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fatigue, dark urine, loss of appetite, joint pain, and jaundice. High risk in Ghana.
- **Hepatitis B:** Transmitted through infected blood and bodily fluids and effectively prevented with vaccination. An unexpected medical or dental emergency may place the unvaccinated traveler at risk. Practice safe sex and ensure medical procedures, tattoos, or piercings are conducted using sterile equipment. Symptoms include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fatigue, dark urine, loss of appetite, joint pain, and jaundice. High risk in Ghana.
- **Hepatitis E:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. Symptoms appear two to eight weeks after exposure and include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, dark urine, joint pain, and jaundice. High risk in Ghana.
- **HIV/AIDS:** Transmitted through infected blood and bodily fluids. Practice safe sex and ensure medical procedures, tattoos, or piercings are conducted using sterile equipment. Within two to four weeks of HIV infection, many people, but not all, experience influenza-like illness, including fever, swollen glands, sore throat, rash, fatigue, muscle and joint pains, and headache. These symptoms, also called acute retroviral syndrome (ARS), can last from days to weeks. Without treatment, the infection can lead to AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).
- **Lassa Fever:** Transmitted through exposure to food or surfaces contaminated by rodent urine or droppings, but it can also be transmitted from person to person through bodily fluids. Symptoms typically develop one to three weeks after exposure. Mild symptoms include fever, headache, and weakness. More serious symptoms such as bleeding (e.g., in the gums, eyes, or nose), difficulty breathing, repeated vomiting, muscle pain, and shock may occur. Serious illness can lead to death within two weeks after onset of symptoms.
- **Leishmaniasis:** Transmitted through the bites of sandflies. Risk is greatest from dusk to dawn. Cutaneous leishmaniasis is the most common form of *Leishmania* infection, causing skin sores that are usually painless. Visceral leishmaniasis is the second most common; typical symptoms include high fever, substantial weight loss, swelling of the spleen and liver, and anemia. If left untreated, this form of leishmaniasis is nearly 100 percent fatal within two years.
- **Lymphatic Filariasis:** Transmitted through mosquito bites. Many bites over several months or years are needed for infection. Risk is lower for short-term travelers than for long-term travelers, expatriates, or nationals. For those who do show symptoms, the most common is lymphedema, which is the swelling and accumulation of fluids due to a poorly functioning lymphatic system. The most commonly affected areas are the legs, but breasts, arms, and genitalia can also present lymphedema. These symptoms usually appear many years after infection. There is no immunization, and medications may be challenging to procure.
- **Malaria:** Transmitted through mosquito bites. Symptoms of malaria most commonly include fever, chills, headaches and body aches, nausea and vomiting, and general malaise. These symptoms usually develop 10-28 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito. However, there are reports of symptoms beginning as early as seven days to as late as one year. Preventative medications (prophylaxis) are available. The risk of infection is high and exists nationwide.

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- **Meningococcal Disease:** Transmitted through respiratory droplets released by coughing or sneezing. The most common symptoms of meningococcal infection are a stiff neck, high fever, sensitivity to light, confusion, headaches, and vomiting. Such symptoms typically occur two to 10 days after exposure. The risk of infection exists nationwide, especially in poor and densely crowded areas.
 - **Mpox:** Transmitted to humans through direct contact with infected individuals (including intimate or sexual contact), infected animals, or through contact with contaminated materials. Human-to-human transmission primarily occurs through close personal contact with an infected individual via respiratory droplets, direct contact with bodily fluids, or indirect contact with lesion material, e.g., contaminated clothing or bedding. Symptoms typically appear 3-17 days after exposure but can develop up to 21 days after exposure. Symptoms generally include fever, headache, muscle and back aches, swollen lymph nodes, chills, exhaustion, and a rash characterized by lesions that progress through several stages before falling off.
 - **Onchocerciasis:** Transmitted through black fly bites. Symptoms of river blindness affect both the skin and the eye. These include skin rash and nodules under the skin, as well as inflammation of the eye, light sensitivity, cataracts, and/or itching of the eyes. The risk of infection exists primarily near rapidly flowing rivers and streams.
 - **Rabies:** Transmitted through the saliva of infected wild or domesticated mammals, usually by a bite or scratch. Do not approach unknown animals. Stray dogs pose the greatest threat in both urban and rural areas.
 - **Schistosomiasis:** Transmitted via small parasite larvae through exposure to contaminated freshwater bodies. Symptoms include an itchy rash, fever, muscle soreness, and cough. Without treatment, schistosomiasis can persist for years, causing abdominal pain, blood in the urine, problems passing urine, blood in the stool, and an enlarged liver.
 - **Traveler's Diarrhea:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. This is the most common illness in travelers. People who become ill by an infectious agent that causes TD most often experience nausea, vomiting, fever, bloody stools, and/or the urge to constantly pass stool despite an empty gastrointestinal tract. High risk in Ghana.
 - **Tuberculosis:** Transmitted through respiratory droplets released by coughing or sneezing. Individuals planning an extended stay should consider obtaining a PPD skin test to reference against future suspected infections. Symptoms commonly include chest pain, a bad cough lasting three weeks or longer, and coughing up blood and/or sputum. Some people also experience chills, weight loss, fever, weakness, night sweats, and loss of appetite. High risk in Ghana.
 - **Typhoid Fever:** Transmitted by contaminated milk, water, and food. Raw fish and shellfish from contaminated waters are likely to be infected. Symptoms of typhoid fever usually include fever, abdominal pain or discomfort, chills and body aches, weakness, and loss of appetite.
 - **Yellow Fever:** Transmitted through mosquito bites. Symptoms of yellow fever include fever, muscle pain, backaches, and chills. Ghana is classified as a yellow fever-endemic country. Many countries require proof of yellow fever vaccination or a valid medical waiver for any traveler who has visited or transited through endemic countries. Be sure to check yellow fever vaccine requirements for the next country or countries on your itinerary. The risk of infection exists year-round nationwide; however, the risk is highest during and immediately following the two rainy seasons, which typically occur from April to June and from September to November.
 - **Zika Virus:** Transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, mainly during the day, or sexually through an infected partner. Mosquito bite prevention and practicing safe sex are essential. In many cases, the Zika virus is asymptomatic; however, in some, it may cause symptoms similar to dengue and chikungunya, including fever, rash, joint pain, and red eyes. Significant birth defects have been associated with Zika virus infection in pregnant women. Partners of women who have recently traveled to an area with Zika virus circulation are encouraged to use condoms for at least six months or the duration of a partner's pregnancy. The risk of infection exists year-round nationwide; however, the risk is highest during and immediately following the two rainy seasons, which typically occur from April to June and from September to November.
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Health Requirements

● Unrated

Yellow Fever: Vaccination Required

Ghana is classified as a **yellow fever** endemic country. Many countries require proof of yellow fever vaccination or a valid medical waiver for any traveler who has visited or transited through endemic countries. Be sure to check yellow fever vaccine requirements for the next country or countries on your itinerary. Single dose, full-strength yellow fever vaccine is valid for life. **Required** upon arrival for all travelers aged nine months or over.

HIV Testing

No known restrictions

Health Recommendations

● Unrated

Recommended Immunizations for Travel to Ghana

Travelers should ensure that they have routine vaccination courses and boosters. You should visit a healthcare professional at least four to six weeks before the trip. Routine vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, varicella (chickenpox), polio, and the annual flu vaccine. Travelers should consider obtaining COVID-19 vaccination where available, even if the destination country does not require it.

- **Cholera:** Unless contraindicated, it is recommended for individuals staying in endemic areas or where there are current outbreaks. Cholera vaccine is not a substitute for thorough hand washing with soap and water, observing good personal hygiene, and taking food and water precautions. Three WHO pre-qualified oral cholera vaccines (OCV) exist: Dukoral, Shanchol, and Euvichol. All of these require two doses for full protection.
- **Hepatitis A:** Recommended for most individuals unless contraindicated. Two doses, administered at least six months apart, are required for long-lasting protection. It is recommended that all susceptible people traveling for any purpose, frequency, or duration to countries with high or intermediate hepatitis A endemicity be vaccinated or receive immune globulin before departure. A booster is recommended for partially vaccinated travelers.
- **Hepatitis B:** Recommended for most individuals unless contraindicated. Widely used formulations require three doses administered over the course of six to 18 months, depending on the recipient's age and vaccination history. Booster doses after a complete series are usually not required to maintain immunity. If exposed before finalizing the full series, individuals may receive a special booster within 24 hours for short-term protection.
- **Meningococcal:** Recommended for individuals traveling to a country where meningococcal meningitis is present and where their stay may be prolonged or they are involved in activities that may increase their personal risk of exposure to the disease, such as working in a healthcare setting and/or living closely with the local population. Vaccination should ideally be administered at least seven to ten days before travel. Unless contraindicated, one dose is required, with a booster three to five years later. Ghana lies on the meningococcal disease belt of Sub-Saharan Africa.
- **Rabies:** Unless contraindicated, the WHO and CDC recommend vaccination for individuals who will be performing occupational or recreational activities that increase the risk for exposure to potentially rabid animals, such as animal handlers, field biologists, cavers, missionaries, veterinarians, and some laboratory workers. It is also recommended for travelers who might have difficulty getting prompt access to safe post-exposure prophylaxis. Ghana has reported rabies in domestic animals, thus most travelers are at risk. Bats are likely to carry bat rabies.

- **Typhoid Fever:** Recommended for most individuals unless contraindicated, especially those staying with friends or relatives in endemic areas or visiting smaller cities or rural areas. Widely used formulations require between two and four doses, depending on the formulation and the recipient's vaccination history. Booster vaccination is required every two or five years depending on the formulation. The last dose should be taken at least one week before travel.

Medical Facilities and Services

 4.50

Medical care in major cities is adequate, but rural areas have limited services. Hygiene and quality vary, and upfront cash payment is often required, as credit cards are not always accepted. Public clinics usually lack basic resources, private hospitals typically require advance payment or insurance, and public hospitals have minimal overnight staff, with patients covering transfer costs.

Medications and Pharmacy

 Unrated

Pharmacies across Ghana are readily available in urban areas and major cities, especially in Accra. Access is limited outside of these areas. Supply of most medicines needed by travelers is variable. Travelers are advised to only purchase medications from licensed pharmacies in urban areas as counterfeit medications are common. Prior to travelling confirm the status of your "over the counter" medicines with accredited foreign government offices of Ghana in your country. Always carry your prescription medication in its original packaging, along with your doctor's prescription and any other relevant documentation.

Mental Health

 2.50

Mental health services are available in most locations, particularly urban areas, and conditions are somewhat managed.

Food and Water Safety

 4.25

Drinking water is generally unsafe in Ghana. Use only bottled, boiled, or otherwise purified water for drinking and cooking. Do not use ice cubes made from unpurified water sources. Eat only thoroughly cooked food served hot, or fruits and vegetables that you have cleaned and peeled; avoid salads. Consume only pasteurized milk and dairy products, or use powdered or canned milk and cured cheeses. Avoid street vendors and unregulated food establishments.

Political

 2.25 - Low

Ghana remains politically stable and institutionally resilient. The December 2024 elections resulted in John Dramani Mahama and the National Democratic Congress returning to power with a strong mandate, reinforcing Ghana's pattern of electoral alternation and peaceful transfers of authority. The government is likely to remain stable through 2026, supported by parliamentary strength and broad acceptance of constitutional politics.

Political risk is driven less by threats to regime survival than by economic hardship, expectations for rapid reform, anti-corruption politics, unemployment, illegal mining, public-sector wage pressure, and fiscal constraints under the IMF-supported reform program. These issues can generate protests and labor action, but they are unlikely to destabilize the state.

Corruption

 3.25

Corruption remains a material business and governance concern, even though Ghana performs better than many regional peers. Risks are most relevant in public procurement, customs, land administration, licensing, policing, public works, and state-linked contracting. The Mahama administration has emphasized anti-corruption and accountability, including scrutiny of former officials, but enforcement is likely to remain politically sensitive and uneven.

Government Stability

 2.25

Ghana's government is likely to remain stable in the near term. The country operates under a presidential republic with executive power vested in the president and legislative power exercised by the unicameral Parliament. Presidents serve a maximum of two elected four-year terms, and the two dominant parties remain the National Democratic Congress (NDC) and the New Patriotic Party (NPP).

The 2024 election produced a peaceful transfer of power and gave the NDC a strong governing position. This strengthens near-term policy continuity within the new administration but also raises public expectations for economic recovery, anti-corruption action, and employment growth. The main stability risks are localized unrest, labor pressure, and elite competition ahead of future election cycles rather than an immediate threat to constitutional order.

Political rhetoric can intensify around by-elections, corruption cases, electoral reforms, and sensitive social legislation. Localized clashes between party supporters are possible during campaign periods, but Ghana's institutions, media environment, and civil society continue to provide important checks on escalation.

Rule of Law

 2.50

Ghana's rule-of-law environment remains stronger than in much of the region, but implementation is inconsistent. Courts are generally independent from direct executive control, yet proceedings can be slow, costly, and vulnerable to delays caused by resource constraints, case backlogs, and procedural inefficiencies. Contract enforcement and dispute resolution can therefore be protracted.

Police capacity varies widely by location. Urban police can provide basic response and investigation, but units outside major cities may lack vehicles, communications equipment, or specialized training. Corruption, illegal detention, informal payment requests, and checkpoint extortion remain reported concerns. Police brutality is not a routine feature of public-order management, but security forces can use force during protests or communal clashes.

Sanctions

 1.75

Ghana does not face broad international sanctions, and sanctions-related risk is low for most travelers and businesses.

Legal

Unrated

Visitors to Ghana are subject to local laws, which may differ from those in their home country. Authorities may fine, detain, imprison, deport, or bar reentry for those who violate local law, including unintentionally. Drug offenses, immigration violations, photography of sensitive facilities, fraud, and public-order offenses can carry serious penalties.

Consular notification and access may not be automatic in practice, and detained foreign nationals should request consular assistance directly. Consular officers can usually provide welfare support and help identify legal representation, but they cannot intervene in local judicial proceedings, provide legal advice at trial, or pay legal fees or fines. Authorities may treat dual nationals as Ghanaian citizens, which can affect outside consular support.

Emergency Contacts

● Unrated

Emergency Contacts

Ambulance 193

Fire 192

Police 191

Embassies and Consulates

● Unrated

German Embassy

Address No. 6, Kenneth Kaunda Road (Former Ridge Street), North Ridge, Accra

Fax [+233 30 222 13 47](tel:+233302221347)

Email info@accra.diplo.de

Web Site <http://www.accra.diplo.de>

US Embassy

Address No. 24 Fourth Circular Rd., Cantonments (P.O. Box GP 2288), Accra

Fax [\(233-30\) 274 1692](tel:(233-30)2741692)

Email consulateaccra@state.gov

Web Site <http://ghana.usembassy.gov>

Delegation of the European Commission

Address The Round House, 81 Cantonments Road (P.O. Box 9505), Accra

Fax [\(233-30\) 277 4154](tel:(233-30)2774154)

Email delegation-ghana@ec.europa.eu

Web Site <http://www.delgha.ec.europa.eu/en/index.htm>

British High Commission

Address 2 Osu Link, off Gamel Abdul Nasser Road, Osu Ara (P.O. Box 296), Accra

Fax (233-30) 221 3274/1715

Email high.commission.accra@fco.gov.uk

Web Site <http://ukinghana.fco.gov.uk/en/>

Austrian Embassy

Address Plot 9, Usuma Street, Maitama, Abuja

Fax [\(234-9\) 461 2715](tel:(234-9)4612715)

Email abuja-ob@bmeia.gv.at

Web Site www.aussenministerium.at/abuja

French Embassy

Address 12th road of Liberation avenue (P.O. box 187), Accra

Fax [\(233-30\) 221 4589](tel:(233-30)2214589)

Email info@ambafrance-gh.org

Web Site www.ambafrance-gh.org

Australian High Commission

Address 2, Second Rangoon Close (cnr Josef B. Tito Ave), Cantonments, Accra

Fax [\(233-30\) 221 6410](tel:(233-30)2216410)

Email Accrahc.Enquiries@dfat.gov.au

Web Site <http://www.ghana.embassy.gov.au>

Canadian High Commission

Address 42 Independence Avenue, Accra

Fax [\(233-30\) 221 1523](tel:(233-30)2211523)

Email accra@international.gc.ca

Web Site <http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/ghana>

Entry/Exit

Unrated

Travel Documents

Travelers can obtain specific information about visas and other entry-exit requirements at: <https://entry-exit.crisis24horizon.com/>.

HIV Testing Requirement Not required.

Pre-Departure

Unrated

- Crime is a serious problem, and there is a growing threat from extremist militant groups. A risk assessment should have been completed against the travel itinerary before traveling. Travelers should further undertake a pre-travel security brief on the associated threats and operating environment, and are recommended to have undertaken annual travel security training. Corruption is problematic, and business travelers should undertake bribery and corruption training before traveling.

- Standards of medical care are limited outside of urban centers, and travelers' personal medical information should be recorded, travelers should receive a detailed medical brief including appropriate vaccinations, and should ensure they have sufficient supplies of prescriptions or medicines to cover delays or lack of availability. Travelers should identify possible sources of medical support in country, such as the availability of hotel provided doctor for minor ailments. Dependent upon task and travel plans, specific medical support may be required.

- Travelers should have adequate travel insurance in place to enable rapid medical treatment or emergency extraction from country, and should review contingency operations, business continuity and crisis management plans.

- Unrest occurs occasionally, and travelers should conduct research into the current stability in-country. If the travel dates coincide with planned elections, anniversaries or significant dates, additional measures may need to be taken.

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- Travelers should provide friends and family a copy of their travel itinerary, make a copy of important travel and identification documents, and if applicable, obtain their visa prior to arrival. Travelers should also have information on their meeting host, accommodation, relevant embassies and trusted local contacts easily accessible.

On Arrival

● Unrated

- Arriving in Kotoka International Airport in Accra can be chaotic, and travelers should arrange a meet and greet service. Travelers should proceed through arrivals in a timely manner, and depart as soon as practicably possible.
- Travelers should carry a copy of their travel documents at all times.

In Transit

● Unrated

- Travelers should avoid using street taxis, but should utilize low-profile locally vetted transport providers which have emergency equipment appropriate to the local geography and climatic conditions. Fuel levels in the vehicles should be at least half-full. Travel routes should avoid isolated areas and potential choke points where practical. Travelers should establish the formal identification of the driver before commencing any trip.
- Travelers should only travel with minimal non-essential valuable items, and valuables should not be displayed publicly.
- Travelers should minimize travel at night and vehicles should hold a disaster supplies kit.

At Your Hotel

● Unrated

- Travelers should stay at reputable hotel with good standards of international-level security, and should avoid hotels that have scheduled high-profile conferences during the stay. Hotels should be located in areas of town that have not previously witnessed protests or demonstrations, or are not marred by ethnic or political tensions.
- On arrival at the hotel, ensure the driver stays on site until your check-in has been confirmed. Similarly before departing to the airport when leaving the hotel, ensure your driver waits until your flight check-in is confirmed.

In the Street

● Unrated

- Travelers should avoid leaving the hotel alone after dark.
- Travelers should be aware of the national culture and behavioral expectations. Same-sex relations are criminalized in Ghana. There have been occasional arrests and attempted extortions of LGBT individuals, although actual prosecution is rare. Nonetheless, travelers should carefully weigh the risks of attending related rallies and events, as well as displaying overt signs of their sexual orientation in public, such as holding hands.
- Travelers should keep a low profile, and should not become involved in local political issues and avoid discussing politically sensitive topics in public. Photographing government buildings or military facilities may result in detention by authorities
- Travelers should avoid any demonstrations, protests and rallies, which may attract security forces and law enforcement officers and present a dynamic and volatile environment.

- Travelers should avoid overt displays of wealth and dress discreetly and appropriately to environment. Do not display money, jewelry or valuables and keep a low profile. Travelers should use only small denominations of the local currency, and keep large amounts of cash and cards in a separate place on your person. Reduce the contents of your wallet or purse contents, particularly cards which may denote affiliations, memberships and accounts. Do not use credit or debit cards unless absolutely necessary and then only at respected, well-known retail and service establishments.
- Travelers should ensure that their mobile phone is carried with sufficient battery life and programmed with appropriate emergency numbers. Travelers should also carry an ID card or passport and emergency medical information.
- Travelers should be aware of their location and surroundings. Avoid high-crime areas and of walking through dimly lit streets after dark. Travelers should know routes and carry a map if necessary, but keep it concealed.
- In crowded situations, travelers should be aware of jostling as this may be a ploy for pick-pockets. Travelers should also be aware of people loitering, and also that attackers may first pass their victim to attack from behind.
- Travelers should ignore verbal 'bait' from passers-by, do not get into an argument and avoid eye contact with strangers.

Culture

Unrated

Standard Hours of Operation

Business: Monday-Friday, 0800-1800; Saturday, 0800-1300

Government: Monday-Friday, 0900-1700

Banking: Monday-Friday, 0800-1600

Business attire is generally semi-formal. Men should wear a coat, suit jacket, or a blazer, a button-down shirt, suit pants, and dress shoes. For women, a skirt below the knee or pants suit and blouse with dress shoes is appropriate.

Appointments are best scheduled Monday-Friday 1000-1600. Arriving late to meetings or social engagements is a common practice. Informal or personal discussions are common. Scheduled meetings will typically run longer than expected. If a meeting includes dining out, the host /guest offers to pay. Alcohol taken during lunch meetings is considered inappropriate, but normal at dinner. In the presence of locals, women may be expected to refrain from drinking as much alcohol as men.

English is commonly used for business purposes. Attempts by visitors to use phrases in the native languages are well received but not expected. Ensure you know your counterpart's correct native language first. Business cards are widely used and are presented using the right hand or both hands. Always use Mr./Ms. or a local honorific title until the host indicates that using first names is appropriate. Addressing the host according to their official title is seen as a sign of respect. When beginning the meeting, shake hands with everyone. Ghanaians may snap each other's middle fingers after completing a handshake. Muslim Ghanaians may not engage in cross-gender handshakes.

Gestures

Unrated

Business cards are widely used; when in use, they are presented using the right hand.

When beginning the meeting, men shake hands with other males. Men must wait for women to initiate a hand shake before greeting.

When departing, shake hands again.

Muslim people may not engage in cross-gender handshakes.

Avoid using the following gestures or habits, as they are deemed offensive or insulting:

- Using your left hand to gesticulate, shake hands, greet, wave, collect or receive items
- Smelling food
- Engaging in public displays of affection between same-sex couples
- Wearing shoes on sacred ground
- Sitting with legs or ankles crossed in front of eminent persons (traditional elders)
- Harshly telling someone to be quiet or insulting their intelligence

Religions

● Unrated

Christian 71%, Muslim 18%, traditional 5%, other including none 6%

Ethnicities

● Unrated

Akan 48%, Mole-Dagbon 17%, Ewe 14%, Ga-Dangme 7%, Gurma 6%, Other, including Guan and Grusi, 8%

Significant Dates

● Unrated

2026 Significant Dates

Jan. 1 New Year's Day
 Jan. 7 Constitution Day
 March 6 Independence Day
 March 20 Eid al-Fitr (end of Ramandan) (tentative)
 April 3 Good Friday
 April 6 Easter Monday
 May 1 Workers' Day
 May 25 Africa Unity Day
 May 27 Eid al-Adha (tentative)
 July 1 Republic Day
 Aug. 4 Founders' Day
 Sept. 21 Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Day
 Dec. 4 National Farmers' Day
 Dec. 25 Christmas Day

Financial

Unrated

Financial conditions vary by location. Cash remains important outside major cities and at smaller businesses, while card and mobile-money acceptance is stronger in Accra, Kumasi, and higher-end hotels, restaurants, and retailers. Banks and licensed foreign-exchange bureaus usually offer official exchange rates. Travelers should use formal exchange channels and comply with currency declaration requirements when entering or leaving Ghana.

Currency

● Unrated

Currency Name / Code

The official currency of Ghana is the cedi (GHC). One cedi is made up of 100 pesewas. Other currencies accepted for transactions include US dollars, pounds sterling, and euros.

Currency Convertibility

Banks and licensed money changers generally provide currency exchange services in Ghana. Larger banks and established bureaus usually offer more reliable rates and documentation. Black-market exchange is illegal and increases exposure to fraud, counterfeit currency, and compliance problems.

Credit Card

● Unrated

Major credit cards are accepted at many higher-end hotels, restaurants, supermarkets, and larger retailers in Accra and other major cities, but acceptance is inconsistent outside formal establishments.

Taxes and Tipping

● Unrated

Tipping is customary for hotel staff, restaurant wait staff, drivers, and guides. Service charges are sometimes included in bills, but a tip of around 10 percent remains customary for good service where no service charge is included or where additional service is provided.

Bank and ATM

● Unrated

ATM Availability

ATMs are widely available in Accra, Kumasi, Tamale, Cape Coast, Takoradi, and other major towns. Travelers should use machines in secure, well-lit locations, preferably inside banks, hotels, malls, or guarded commercial areas. ATM availability and cash supply can be more limited in rural areas.

Bank Availability

Banks generally operate Monday through Friday during normal business hours, with some branches offering limited Saturday service. Services can be slower near public holidays or during system outages. Cash advances on foreign-issued cards may be limited and should not be relied upon as a primary source of funds.

LGBTQ Security

5.00 - Extreme

The overall threat to LGBTQ individuals in Ghana is extreme and may worsen in the near term should the Human Sexual Rights and Family Values Bill be enacted in the coming year. Although same-sex sexual acts and marriages are illegal, the bill introduces harsher punishments and also prescribes penalties for individuals who support, advocate, and sponsor LGBTQ activities. The bill was approved by parliament in 2024 and has widespread support across the country but lapsed after it was not signed into law before the general elections. The bill was resubmitted to parliament in March 2025 but is still awaiting validation from the new administration. Acts of violence, discrimination, and harassment targeting LGBTQ individuals are subsequently increasing in the country, with conditions likely to worsen in 2025.

LGBTQ Legal Environment

● 5.00

The Ghanaian legal environment presents an extreme threat to LGBTQ individuals. Ghana maintains some of the most restrictive and

discriminatory laws against LGBTQ individuals and organizations in Africa. There are no legal protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and there is no legal recognition for same-sex marriages or partnerships. Under Section 104 of the Ghanaian Criminal Code of 1960, same-sex sexual acts are illegal for males and punishable by up to three years imprisonment, while the application of the law for females is unclear. Same-sex couple adoptions are not allowed, and conversion therapy is legal and a known practice in the country. If the Human Sexual Rights and Family Values Bill is enacted into law in the coming year, the legal environment is likely to worsen in the near term. If enacted, the bill would increase the maximum punishment for same-sex sexual acts from three years imprisonment to five years. The bill also prescribes the same punishment for individuals who provide or receive gender-affirming care, who participate in same-sex marriages, or publicly identify as LGBTQ. The bill also outlines a maximum punishment of 10 years imprisonment for individuals who campaign for LGBTQ rights or promote LGBTQ issues. The bill was initially proposed in 2021 and, after a few amendments, was approved by parliament in 2024. However, the bill lapsed after it was not signed into law by the executive branch before the general elections in 2024 but was reintroduced by members of parliament in March 2025. The newly inaugurated President, John Mahama, has given mixed signals as to whether he intends to formally implement the bill. In a January 2025 meeting with the Ghanaian Catholic Bishops' Conference, President Mahama signaled that the bill was unnecessary to protect "African values" when pushed by the bishops to pass the bill. The President instead stressed the need for a core curriculum to be taught in schools, while still signaling an openness for the bill to be implemented into law after "broad consultation with relevant bodies."

LGBTQ Enforcement

 4.00

The enforcement rating is high across Ghana as authorities are likely to enforce laws targeting LGBTQ individuals. Though officials rarely prosecute individuals who engage in same-sex sexual acts, police are highly likely to use the law to harass LGBTQ individuals and advocates of LGBTQ rights. Parliament's approval of the Human Sexual Rights and Family Values Bill suggests a renewed interest in prosecuting LGBTQ individuals, acts, and organizations. There are no laws protecting LGBTQ individuals from discrimination, and authorities are unlikely to investigate acts of violence or discrimination against suspected LGBTQ individuals.

LGBTQ Social Environment

 5.00

The social environment presents an extreme threat and is likely to worsen in the near term, as discrimination and crimes against LGBTQ individuals are commonplace and increasing. Various LGBTQ and human rights advocacy groups have reported increasing acts of violence and discrimination against LGBTQ individuals in recent years. In September 2023, a 17-year-old boy was dismissed from a boarding school in Accra over accusations of being gay due to his allegedly effeminate behavior. Pervasive threats against LGBTQ individuals are common, resulting in people hiding and fleeing the country for their safety. Incidents of beatings and public humiliation of LGBTQ individuals are growing in number, with some of these attacks shared on social media to further humiliate and ostracize LGBTQ individuals. Many groups attribute the worsening social environment to the proposed Human Rights and Family Values Bill, which is still awaiting executive approval. Political and religious ideologies continue to endorse widespread anti-LGBTQ sentiment across the country, with LGBTQ individuals largely perceived as incompatible with local values and beliefs. With no legal protections, openly LGBTQ individuals are often impoverished as they struggle to gain employment, housing, and access to healthcare. If signed into law, the introduction of the Human Sexual Rights and Family Values Bill is likely to further spur marginalization, discrimination, and violence against LGBTQ individuals.

Active Alerts

No Alerts

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