



## GENERAL INFORMATION

Ghana is a country with an approximate area of 239 thousand square kilometers (UNO, 2008). The population is 24,332,755 and the sex ratio (men per hundred women) is 104 (UNO, 2009). The proportion of the population under the age of 18 years is 44% and the proportion above age 60 is 4% (UNO, 2009). The literacy rate is 81% for men and 78% for women (UN Statistics, 2008). The life expectancy at birth is 62 years for males and 64 years for females (UNO, 2005-2010). The healthy life expectancy at birth is 49 years for males and 64 years for females (UNPD, 2010). The country is in the Low income group (based on 2010 World Bank criteria). The total expenditure on health as a percentage of gross domestic product is 8.08% and the per capita government expenditure on health (PPP int. \$) is \$26.0 (WHO, 2006). Suicide rate information is not available. In Ghana, neuropsychiatric disorders are estimated to contribute to 8.8% of the global burden of disease (WHO, 2008).

## GOVERNANCE

An officially approved mental health policy exists and was approved or most recently revised in 1996. Mental health is not specifically mentioned in the general health policy.

A mental health plan exists and was approved or most recently revised in 2007. The mental health plan components include:

- Timelines for the implementation of the mental health plan.
- Funding allocation for the implementation of half or more of the items in the mental health plan.

Dedicated mental health legislation exists and it was initiated or most recently revised in 1972. Legal provisions concerning mental health are also covered in other laws (e.g., welfare, disability, general health legislation etc.).

Note: There is a new draft mental health bill waiting to be passed.

## FINANCING

Precise figures on mental health expenditures by the government health department/ministry are not available. However, it is estimated that mental health expenditures are 2% of total health expenditures. Mental hospital expenditures are not available.

## MENTAL HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

### Primary Care

Prescription regulations authorize primary health care doctors to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines. In contrast, the department of health does not authorize primary health care nurses to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines. Likewise, official policy does not permit primary health care nurses to independently diagnose and treat mental disorders within the primary care system.

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

The majority of primary health care doctors and nurses have not received official in-service training on mental health within the last five years. Officially approved manuals on the management and treatment of mental disorders are not available in the majority of primary health care clinics. Official referral procedures for referring persons from primary care to secondary/tertiary care exist, as do referral procedures from tertiary/secondary care to primary care.

## Mental Health Services

### Availability of mental health facilities

	Total number of facilities/beds	Rate per 100,000 population	Number of facilities/beds reserved for children and adolescents only	Rate per 100,000 population
Mental health outpatient facilities	38	0.16	0	0.0
Day treatment facilities	3	0.01	0	0.0
Psychiatric beds in general hospitals	80	0.33	0	0.0
Community residential facilities	2	0.01	0	0.0
Beds/places in community residential facilities	24	0.1	0	0.0
Mental hospitals	5	0.02	0	0.0
Beds in mental hospitals	1500	6.16	20	0.08

### Access to care

	Rates per 100,000 population)	Females (%)	Under age 18 (%)
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	123.29	UN	UN
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	UN	UN	UN
Admissions to psychiatric beds in general hospitals	UN	UN	UN
Persons staying in community residential facilities at the end of the year	UN	UN	UN
Admissions to mental hospitals	24.66	UN	UN

### Long term care in mental hospitals (% of persons staying):

Less than 1 year	UN
More than 1 and less than 5 years	UN

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

More than 5 years	UN
-------------------	----

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### Workforce and training

	Health professionals working in the mental health sector Rate per 100,000	Training of health professions in educational institutions Rate per 100,000
Psychiatrists	0.07	0.01
Medical doctors, not specialized in psychiatry	0.01	0.99
Nurses	2.47	1.64
Psychologists	0.04	0.03
Social workers	0.02	0.00
Occupational therapists	0.00	0.00
Other health workers	0.82	NA

### Informal human resources (Family and User Associations)

	User	Family
Present in the country?	Yes	Yes
Number of members	60	20
Participation in the formulation/implementation of policy/plan/legislation?	Frequently	Not routinely

## MEDICINES

Expenditures for medicines for mental and behavioral disorders at country level

Type of Medicines	Expenditures at country level per year and per 100,000 population (in USD)
All the psychotherapeutic medicines <sup>1</sup>	UN
Medicines used for bipolar disorders <sup>2</sup>	UN
Medicines for psychotic disorders <sup>3</sup>	UN
Medicines used for general anxiety <sup>4</sup>	UN
Medicines used for mood disorders <sup>5</sup>	UN

<sup>1</sup> N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

<sup>2</sup> N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

<sup>3</sup> N05A (excluding N05AN)

<sup>4</sup> N05B & N05C

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

**INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

	<b>Data on number of people/ activities are collected and reported</b>	<b>Data on age and gender are collected and reported</b>	<b>Data on patient's diagnosis are collected and reported</b>
Persons with mental disorders treated in primary health care	No	No	No
Interventions (psychopharmacological and psychosocial) delivered in primary health care for people with mental disorders	No	No	No
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Contacts in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Admissions in general hospitals with psychiatric beds	No	No	No
Admissions in mental hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Days spent in mental hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Admissions in community residential facilities	No	No	No

Note: a specific report focusing mental health activities in the has been published by the Health Department or other responsible government unit in the last three years.

---

<sup>5</sup> N06A

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

