



# GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE

## PRESS RELEASE



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18<sup>th</sup> November, 2025

### One in Five Ghanaians Gave a Gift or Money to a Public Official in 2025-GSS

*Governance Series Wave Two Launched as Part of African Statistics Day, Reinforcing the Call for Data-Driven Accountability*

The Ghana Statistical Service has released The Governance Series Wave Two Report as part of the national commemoration of the 2025 African Statistics Day. This year's theme, **Leveraging innovations in data and statistics to promote a just, peaceful, and prosperous society for Africans**, served as a guiding frame for the event and underscored the importance of timely, credible, and citizen-centred data in supporting national development. The Governance Series embodies this vision by providing regular evidence on how citizens experience and perceive governance in Ghana, with a focus on transparency, fairness, participation, and public service interactions.

All responses reflect citizens interactions and experiences with public officials between the period of January to June 2025. **The findings from the report supports national monitoring of Sustainable Development Goal 16 by generating indicators on corruption and inclusive decision-making.**

Presenting the findings, the Government Statistician, Dr. Alhassan Iddrisu, emphasised the importance of timely and credible governance statistics in strengthening responsive institutions. He noted that the Governance Series demonstrates the value of integrating citizen perspectives with administrative data to inform reforms that build trust and support effective service delivery.

Findings from Wave Two show a decline in bribery prevalence, **with the proportion of citizens who reported giving gifts or money to public officials falling from 18.4 percent in Wave One to 14.3 percent.** While the number of people who engaged in gift giving decreased, a higher share of those who offered did so repeatedly, with the proportion of respondents who gave gifts five or more times increasing from 6.9 percent to 24 percent. Money remained the dominant form of gift, and more than half of respondents reported giving one hundred Ghana cedis or less. Direct requests for gifts declined from 51.3 percent to 38.6 percent, and voluntary gifts in appreciation nearly doubled from 17.6 percent in Wave One to 32.9 percent. Reporting of bribery to official and or non-official structures declined. **The Motor Traffic and Transport Division of the Police Service continued to be the institution most frequently associated with gifts or bribes, although the proportion reduced from 61 percent to 51.9 percent.**

Perceptions of inclusiveness in decision-making improved. The share of Ghanaians who felt that the political system allowed ordinary citizens to have a say in governance increased markedly, rising from 54.8 percent in Wave One to 68.4 percent. The proportion of those who felt completely excluded declined from 42.4 percent to 29.2 percent. Improvements were particularly notable among young people aged eighteen to twenty-four, senior citizens aged sixty-five and above, and persons with difficulty in performing activities. Regional patterns show that the North East, Upper East, and Northern regions still record the highest perceptions of exclusion, though all three regions show improvement over Wave One.

The event brought together representatives from the public sector, civil society, academia, development partners, and the media. Participants reflected on the emerging trends, the implications for institutional performance, and how the data can be used in planning and monitoring.

The Ghana Statistical Service encourages institutions, researchers, and the public to access the full report from [www.statsghana.gov.gh](http://www.statsghana.gov.gh) and use the evidence to support efforts toward a just, peaceful, and inclusive society.

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### **About the Ghana Statistical Service**

The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) provides comprehensive, reliable, quality, relevant, accurate and timely statistical information to guide national development as stipulated in Section 3 of the Statistical Service Act, 2019 (Act 1003). The organisation's vision is to be a trusted provider of official statistics for good governance and its mission being the efficient collection, production, management, and dissemination of quality official statistics based on international standards, using competent and motivated staff for evidence-based decision-making, in support of national development.

The Statistical Service produces monthly and quarterly data on important economic indicators such as inflation, Consumer Price Index, Producer Price Index, and Gross Domestic Product. GSS also regularly generates periodic population, housing, demographic and economic data at the locality, district, and national levels from routine surveys and censuses. The statistics generated by GSS can be utilised by a wide cross-section of users including public sector, businesses, academia, civil society organisations and development partners. For more information visit [www.statsghana.gov.gh](http://www.statsghana.gov.gh).