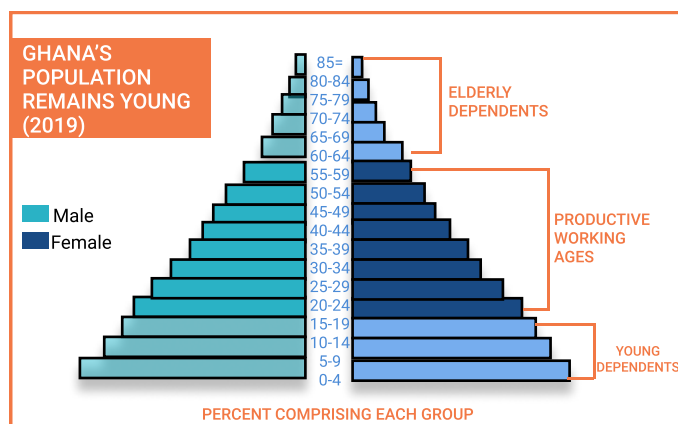


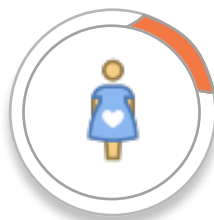
# TURNING THE WHEELS TOWARDS ECONOMIC PROSPERITY THROUGH INVESTMENT IN FAMILY PLANNING

INVESTMENT IN FAMILY PLANNING CAN HELP WOMEN AND COUPLES ACHIEVE THEIR FERTILITY GOALS AND PROMOTE HEALTHIER AND MORE PROSPEROUS FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

Ghana's population age structure is young and has not changed much since the 1960s. The age structure is shaped like a pyramid, with almost 38% of Ghanaians younger than age 15. The large population of young people is economically dependent on a smaller population of working adults to provide for their health and education.

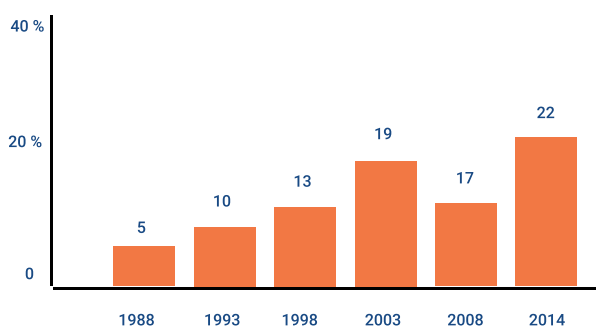


When women and couples have access to voluntary family planning, many choose to have smaller families so they can better invest in the health and education of each child. With fewer births each year, the young, dependent population grows smaller compared to the working-age population. This transformation of the population age structure opens a window of opportunity to achieve a **demographic dividend**—or the accelerated economic growth that can result when more of the population is working-age and employed in well-paying jobs.



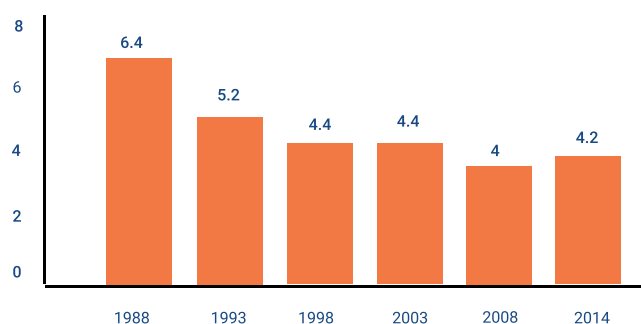
**14% of women ages 15-19 have begun childbearing.**

**Modern Contraceptive Prevalence Rate**



About 1 in 4 married women ages 15-49 in Ghana are using a modern method of family planning.

**Total Fertility Rate**



The total fertility rate has hovered around 4 children since 1998.

# AS GHANA'S AGE STRUCTURE CHANGES, INVESTING IN HUMAN CAPITAL WILL MAKE THE DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND A REALITY

## DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION



- Increase government procurement of contraceptive methods to ensure full financing or commodity needs.
- Expand access to a wider range of contraceptive methods for young people.
- Create budget lines for family planning care using district assemblies common funds.

## HEALTH



- Strengthen primary health care, including universal immunization.
- Ensure adequate nutrition for infants and young children.
- Expand access to adolescent family planning and reproductive health information and care.

## EDUCATION



- Invest in quality education infrastructure.
- Ensure universal access to quality education, especially among young girls.
- Invest in vocational education and training options that equip young people with skills that match labor market.

## ECONOMY



- Modernize farming practices.
- Promote agro-processing.
- Reduce the cost of doing business.

## GOVERNANCE



- Ensure transparency and accountability mechanisms in use of public resources.
- Promote equity and social inclusion.
- Counter harmful cultural practices, traditions and values.

*Investing in the adoption of voluntary family planning will transform Ghana's population structure and help us build a productive Ghana for future generations.*

## SOURCES

Ghana Statistical Service (GSS). 2013. 2010 Population and Housing Census. Analytical Report.

Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), Ghana Health Service (GHS), and ICF International. 2015. Ghana Demographic and Health Survey 2014. Rockville, Maryland, USA: GSS, GHS, and ICF International.

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