THE WAY POLICY GROUP

Population & Employment Evidence Brief

Data source: FAOSTAT · Analysis & Visualization: TW Policy Group

1. Executive Summary · Ghana

> Agricultural employment in Ghana reached 17.69 million persons in 2023, representing 35.6 % of total national employment. Self-employment accounts for 95.2 % of these jobs, indicating a predominantly informal or own-account labour market. Women are 46.4 % and men 53.6 % of all employment in this measure, while youth account for 19.5 % of the workforce. An employed person worked 28.3 hours in an average week. Value added per worker was 3,359 USD. Across those hours that is 2.28 USD an hour worked. The agrifood system employed 7.29 million persons, or 58.9 % of total employment. Employment expanded by 321.7 % over the previous year.

In 2023, Ghana recorded 7.29 million persons for Total employment in agrifood systems (AFS), using FAO Model. Between 2000 and 2023, the reported change was 14.84 %.

Over the five most recent reported years, 2019 to 2023, the series averaged 7.22 million persons. The latest year is close to that average. Against the five years before them the level is 6.75 % lower. 5 of those 5 years carry an estimated or modelled flag, so the window is not wholly observed. Across the full recorded series, 2000 to 2023, the compound annual growth rate is 0.6 % a year.

Reported indicators for Ghana

Figures for Ghana, Total, FAO Model at 2023. A row is shown only where the archive reports that indicator.

EMPLOYMENT	
Employment in agriculture (ILO)	**4,456,570** people
Share of total employment (ILO)	**36** %
Employment in agriculture (FAO)	**17,690,440** people
Share of total employment (FAO)	**35.6** %
Employees	**834,570** people
Self-employed	**16,847,630** people
Workers not classified	**8,250** people

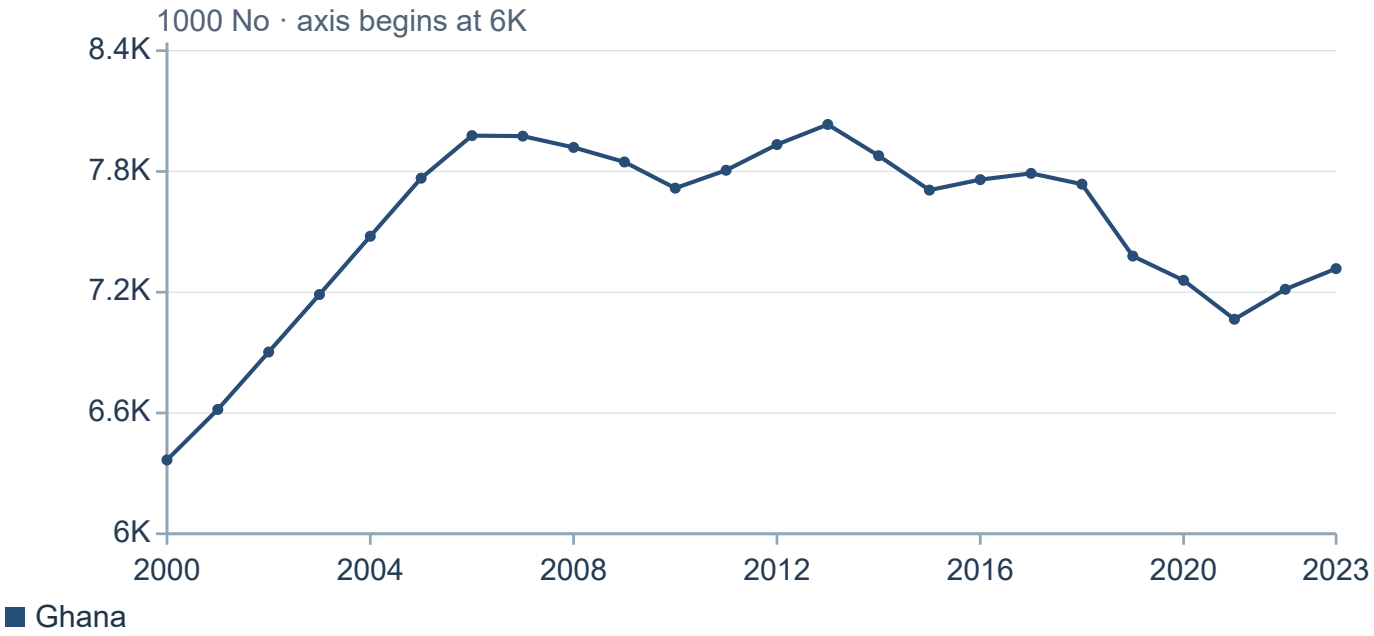
DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS	
Total employment, age 15+	**17,690,440** people
Age 15 to 24	**3,447,690** people
Age 25 to 54	**10,282,630** people
Age 55 to 64	**2,359,270** people
Age 65 and over	**1,600,850** people

HOURS AND OTHER SECTORS	
Mean weekly hours, all	**28.3** hrs / week
Mean weekly hours, employees	**31.9** hrs / week
Value added per worker	**3,359** USD
Agrifood system employment	**7,288,770** people
Agrifood share of total	**58.9** %

Agricultural & Agrifood Systems Employment

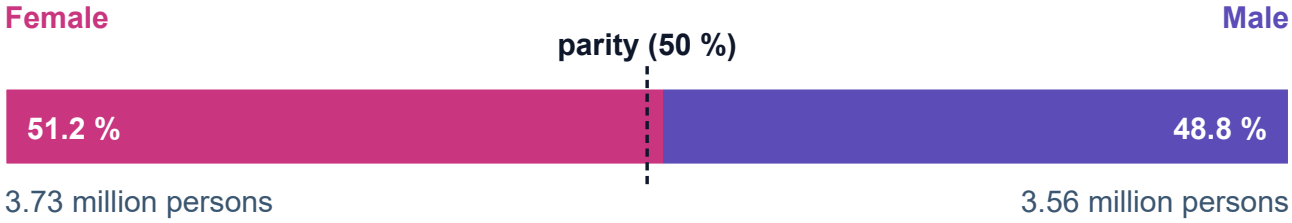
2. Annual trajectory · Total employment in agrifood systems (AFS)

The line joins 24 recorded years between 2000 and 2023. The highest recorded value is 8 million persons in 2013 and the lowest is 6.35 million persons in 2000. Of 23 consecutive year pairs, 13 moved up and 10 moved down or held level.



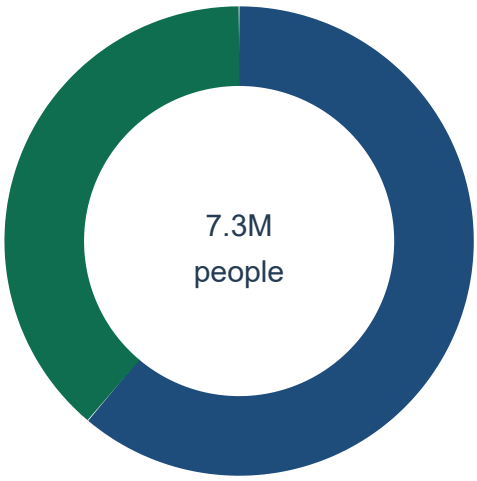
3. Women and men: matched source comparison

Male and female are read from the same source, indicator, measure and unit at 2023, so the two are directly comparable. Women hold 51.2 % of these agricultural jobs and men 48.8 %. That is a gender parity index of 1.05 women to every man; 1.00 would be equal numbers. The bar below splits the two against a parity marker at 50 %.



4. Composition within a matched source scope

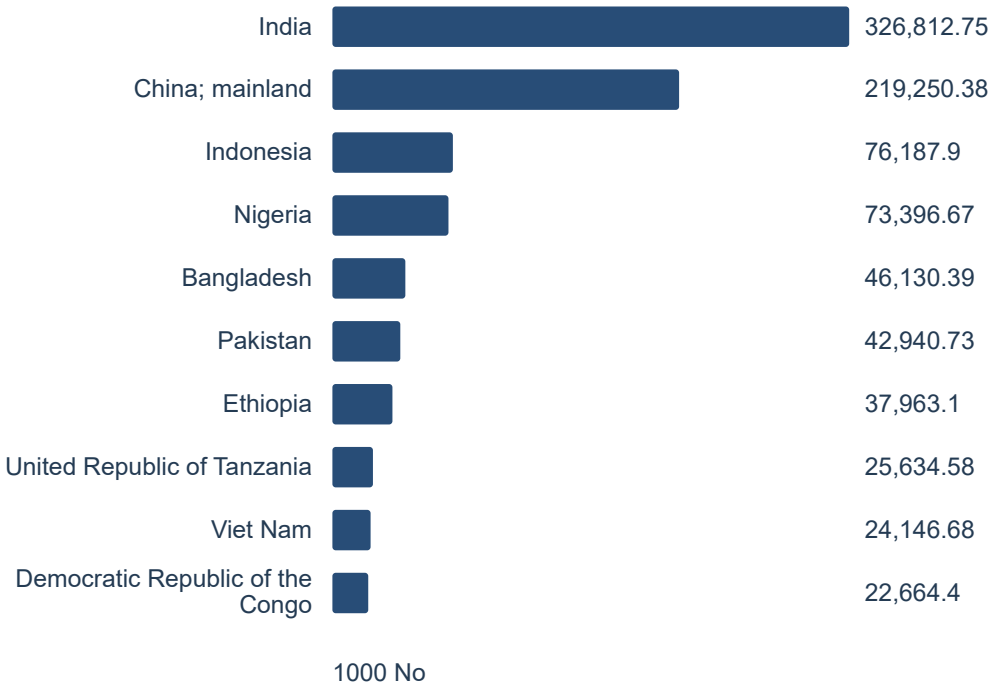
2023: The agricultural component is total agrifood employment minus non-agricultural agrifood employment within the FAO model. It is not substituted for the ILO agriculture series.



Components	share
Agricultural component (difference) 4,456,580 people	61.1 %
Total non-agricultural AFS employment 2,832,190 people	38.9 %

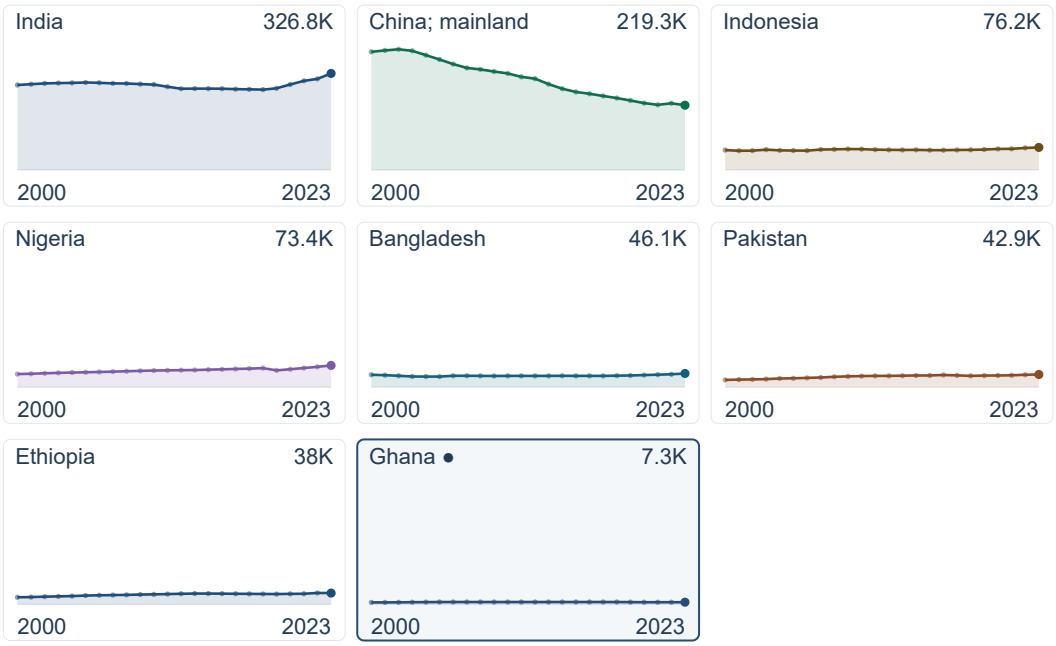
5. Leading reporting countries / territories · Top 10

Same source, indicator, sex, measure and unit at 2023. 146 countries / territories reporting; area aggregates are excluded. Selected area rank: 30 / 146. The median reporting country is 927.31 thousand persons. Ghana is 686.02 % above that median. That places it in the highest quarter of reporting countries. Reporting countries are ranked, never added: these are separate national series, not components of a total.



6. Reporting panel · trajectory of each area

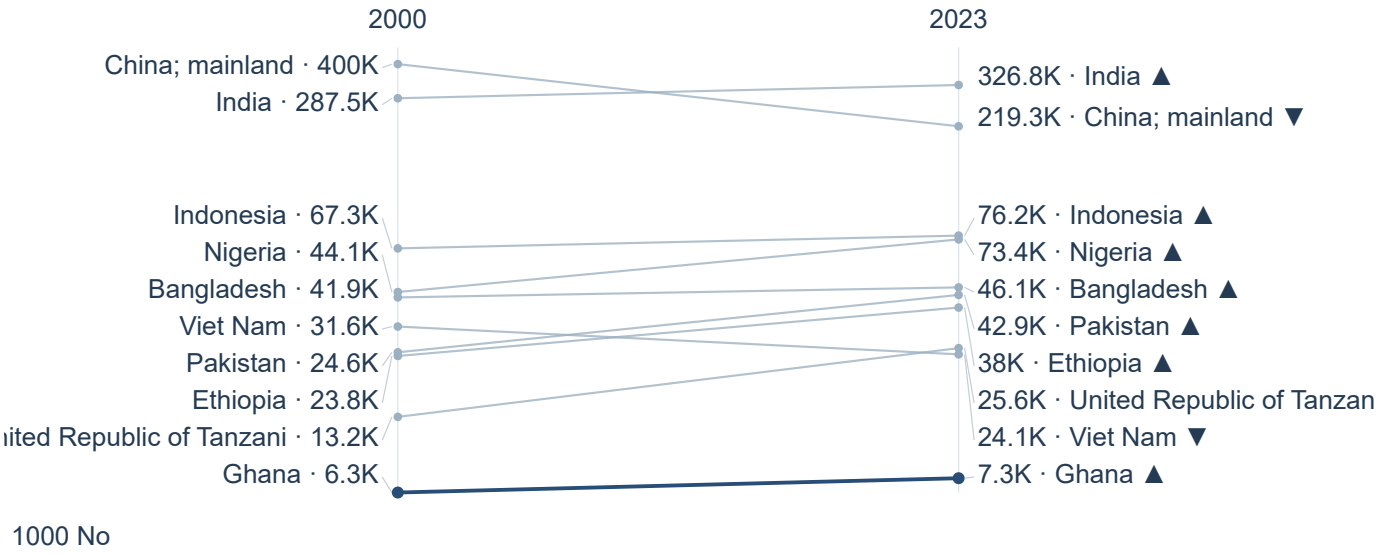
Each panel is one reporting country or territory, drawn on one shared vertical scale so levels are comparable across panels; a flat line is a small level, not a missing series. Panels are the largest reporting areas at 2023 out of 146 reporting. Ghana is among them and is ringed.



Shared vertical scale, 0 to 408.5K 1000 No

7. First to latest recorded year · who moved past whom

The left axis is 2000, the right is 2023. Each line is one reporting country or territory, so a crossing is one area overtaking another. 8 of the 10 shown ended higher than they began. 15 reporting areas are not drawn because they do not report both years, or report a source break between them. The vertical axis is logarithmic: the largest area here is 63 times the smallest, and on a linear axis every smaller line would sit flat on the baseline. Reporting countries are ranked, never added: these are separate national series, not components of a total.



8. Key takeaways and suggested checks

Ghana · 7.29 million persons in 2023, rising at 0.6 % a year across the recorded series.

Own-account work is 95.2 % of this employment, which sets how far wage-based policy instruments can reach.

Ranked 30 of 146 reporting countries, 686.02 % above the median; a peer comparison, not a total.

Women are 51.2 % of the matched total at 2023; the gap is a measurement, not an explanation.

- Investigate the matched female–male difference using care responsibilities, earnings and hours data; the difference alone does not establish discrimination.
- Use the displayed composition to identify groups for follow-up; validate job quality and programme eligibility before allocating support.

What this dashboard does not claim

- **It does not forecast. Where a source publishes projections, they are the source's own and are labelled as such.**
- **It does not establish cause. A difference between two series is a measurement, not an explanation.**
- **It does not add countries, overlapping area groups, sexes or age bands together. Reporting countries are ranked, never summed.**
- **It does not fill a missing year. A gap is left as a gap; it is never interpolated and never read as zero.**
- **It does not reconcile differing national survey definitions. Two countries may both report correctly and still not be measuring the same thing.**
- **It does not substitute one source for another when a series is absent. The selection is preserved and the section is withheld.**
- **It does not compute an employment-to-population ratio across the three datasets, which measure different populations on different definitions.**

▼ Methodology and considerations

1. ### Sources and identity

   FAOSTAT OEA, OER and OA. Employment series retain reporting area, indicator, statistical source, sex, element and unit. Source labels in French and Spanish come from FAOSTAT; absent translations fall back to English.

2. ### Geography and denominators

   Geographic editions use supplied regional archive memberships. No countries, overlapping area groups, sexes or age groups are added indiscriminately. Ranking excludes FAOSTAT aggregate area codes and uses the exact year/source/indicator/sex/measure/unit. Different national surveys may still differ in definitions.

3. ## Changes, missing years and breaks

   Count/level change = 100 × (last / first − 1), only with a positive baseline and no intervening source break. A percentage series changes in percentage points. No interpolation or zero-filling is applied. For narrative readability, 1000 No is multiplied by 1000 and displayed as persons; evidence CSV retains the source value and unit. Lines stop at missing annual observations and breaks. Coverage is recorded years divided by calendar years in the chosen window.

4. ## Population estimates and projections

   The population item explicitly includes estimates and projections. The reviewed FAOSTAT catalogue identifies World Population Prospects 2024 for total population and World Urbanization Prospects 2018 for rural/urban series. The builder reads your supplied archive, which may be revised. Future source records are not newly forecast by TWPG. Rural/urban shares divide each component by rural + urban from that family, never by the separately revised total series.

5. ## Composition and matched comparisons

   Gender comparisons change only the sex dimension and use the latest common year within the window. Female minus male rates are percentage-point gaps. Employment-status components must reconcile within 0.5% of their same-scope total; chart shares use the shown component sum. The FAO agrifood split subtracts non-agricultural AFS employment from total AFS, and does not replace ILO agriculture estimates.

6. ## Connected evidence

   Connected indices require the same area, count series, at least two common recorded years, positive starting values and no source break. Index = 100 × value / common first-year value. Different surveys, ages, residence definitions and model revisions remain distinct. No sum, causal link, job-creation requirement or cross-source employment-to-population ratio is inferred.

7. ## Interpretation and suggested checks

   Takeaways review only saved evidence. Suggested checks are descriptive investigation prompts, not causal findings or prescriptive policy advice. Validate programme eligibility, earnings, informality, working time, survey definitions and institutional context before acting. Models and source revisions may change reported levels. Word text and tables are editable; charts are images.

8. ## Derived measures and their formulas

   Compound annual growth rate = (last / first) raised to 1 / years, minus one, expressed per cent a year. It is computed on counts only, requires both endpoints above zero, and is withheld where a source break falls inside the span. The five-year window is the arithmetic mean of the five most recent reported years, compared with the mean of the five before them; rates are compared in percentage points and counts in per cent. A share is a component divided by the matching same-scope total. The gender parity index is female divided by male on the same source, indicator, measure and unit. Peer standing ranks reporting countries at the latest common year; the median is the middle reporting country and the quartiles divide that ranked list into four. The largest single-year move is the greatest absolute change between two consecutive reported years.

9. ## How each chart is drawn

   The reporting panel draws one tile per reporting country on a single shared vertical scale, so levels are comparable between tiles; a flat line is a small level, not a missing series. The first-to-latest slope chart switches to a logarithmic vertical axis when the largest reporting area exceeds the smallest by more than fifty to one, because on a linear axis every smaller line would sit flat on the baseline; the chart says so when it does. The annual trajectory fits its vertical axis to the data when the data occupy a narrow band, and the caption states where the axis begins; the zero baseline is kept wherever the series approaches or crosses zero. The availability grid draws one cell per country and year, coloured as reported, estimated or modelled, source break, or not reported. The women and men chart splits one matched total against a parity marker at fifty per cent; a rate is not part of a whole, so rates are drawn side by side instead.

10. ## How indicators are matched

    The summary metrics and the indicator tables are bound to FAOSTAT indicator and element names, not to numeric codes, because codes change between releases. Each metric is matched against the English name published in the archive and is read for the selected area, sex and statistical source. A metric whose indicator the archive does not carry is omitted; nothing is substituted, approximated or carried over from another source, and the sentence or table row simply does not appear.

11. ## Exports, reuse and reproducibility

    Evidence CSV retains the source value, unit and flag as published, without the display conversion used in the narrative. Evidence JSON round-trips a saved brief so it can be reopened or handed to a colleague. The Word export keeps text and tables editable and embeds charts as images. The PDF prints from this window. Every chart offers SVG and PNG. The dashboard is a single file with its data embedded and makes no network request when viewed, so it opens from a memory stick or an email attachment; rebuilding from the same archives reproduces the same figures, and build checksums with duplicate counts are written to Data_Audit.json beside the output.

Source flag definitions

Flag	Meaning
B	Time series break
E	Estimated value
L	Missing value; data exist but were not collected
U	Low reliability
X	Figure from external organization

Saved analytical scopes

Agricultural & Agrifood Systems Employment · Ghana · Total employment in agrifood systems (AFS) · FAO Model · Total · Value · 1000 No · 2000–2023 · Global

▼ Source files and provenance

FAOSTAT · Employment Indicators: Agriculture and agrifood systems

Build checksums and duplicate counts: Data_Audit.json in the output folder.

© TW Policy Group · twpolicygroup.com · info@twpolicygroup.com