

Changes of admin borders in Ghana

According to statoids.com

ADM1

Ghana has 10 ADM1 (see “UN Ghana” – map, saved under gazetteer, maps), which are called Regions.

The last change of ADM1 was in 1988, when the Upper region was split into Upper East and upper West.

ADM2

There is a lot of confusion about the ADM2 in Ghana. Statoids.com lists as of 2000 a total of 110 ADM2 (called Districts). There are different types of ADM2 (ordinary, metropolitan and municipal), which are different in how they are further divided. Since 2000, 28 more districts were created. It is possible that in 2007 yet another 28 were made. (the whole seems to be a bit shabby).

Wikipedia says: The districts of Ghana were re-organized in 1988/1989 in an attempt to decentralize the government and to combat the rampant corruption amongst officials. The reform of the late 1980s subdivided the regions of Ghana into 110 districts, where local district assemblies should deal with the local administration. By 2006, an additional 28 districts were created by splitting some of the original 110, bringing their number up to 138. In February 2008, there were more districts created and some were upgraded to municipal status. This brought the final number to 170 districts in Ghana.

- ➔ Much of the confusion stems from the fact that there are “normal”, metropolitan and municipal ADM2, which sometimes are considered to have the same administrative level, but some sources consider them to be hierarchical.
- ➔ **I decided to use the ADM as given on ghanadistricts.com. A pdf list of all those district is added to the server, along with maps of each ADM1 showing the ADM2s (gazetteer – maps – Ghana)**

Change history, as presented by statoids

1. 1988: 65 district assemblies were created in a reform of the local government system.
2. ~1999: The total number of districts had risen to 110, as shown in the table above.
3. 2003-11-12: Nineteen new districts created, as follows:
 1. In Ashanti region, Adansi East district split into Adansi North (capital Fomena) and Adansi South (capital New Edubiase, which was the

former capital of Adansi East). Amansie Central district (capital Jacobu) split from Aminsie East. Atwima district split into Atwima Mponua (capital Nyinahin) and Atwima Nwabiagya (capital Nkawie, which was the former capital of Atwima). Adansi West district renamed Obuasi, and its status changed from ordinary to municipal district.

2. In Brong Ahafo region, Asunafo district split into Asunafo North (capital Goaso, which was the former capital of Asunafo) and Asunafo South (capital Kukuom). Atebubu district split into Atebubu-Amantin (capital Atebubu, which was the former capital of Atebubu) and Pru (capital Yeji). Jaman district split into Jaman North (capital Sampa) and Jaman South (capital Drobo, which was the former capital of Jaman). Kintampo district split into Kintampo North (capital Kintampo, which was the former capital of Kintampo) and Kintampo South (capital Jema). Tain (capital Nsawkaw) district split from Wenchi.
 3. In Central region, Assin district split into Assin North (capital Foso, which was the former capital of Assin) and Assin South (capital Assin Manso). Another source says the capital of Assin South is Nsuaem-Kyekyewere.
 4. In Eastern region, Atiwa district (capital Kwabeng) split from East Akim. Kwahu West district (capital Nkawkaw) split (from Kwahu South?).
 5. In Greater Accra region, Ga district split into Ga East (capital Abokobi) and Ga West (capital Amasaman, which was the former capital of Ga).
 6. In Upper East region, Garu Tampane district (capital Garu Tampane) split from Bawku East. Talensi-Nabdam district (capital Tongo) split from Bolgatanga. Status of Bolgatanga changed from ordinary district to municipal district.
 7. In Upper West region, Wa West district (capital Wechiaw) split from Wa. Status of Wa changed from ordinary district to municipal district.
 8. In Volta region, Adaklu-Anyigbe district (capital Kpetoe or Adaklu Waya, depending on whom you believe) split from Ho. Status of Ho changed from ordinary district to municipal district. Krachi district split into Krachi East (capital Dambai) and Krachi West (capital Kete-Krachi, which was the former capital of Krachi).
 9. In Western region, Juabeso Bia district split into Bia (capital Essam-Debiso) and Juabeso (capital Juabeso, which was the former capital of Juabeso Bia). Wassa Amenfi district split into Amenfi East (capital Wassa Akropong) and Amenfi West (capital Asankragwa, which was the former capital of Wassa Amenfi).
4. 2003-11: Four more new districts created, as follows:

1. In Brong-Ahafo region, Tano South district (capital Duayaw-Nkwanta) split from Tano.
2. In Upper West region, Wa East district (capital Funsi) split (from Wa?).
Sissala West district (capital Gwollu) split (from Sissala?).
3. In Volta region, South Dayi (capital Kpeve) split (from what?).
5. 2004-03-19: Five new districts created in Northern region. They are Bunkpurugu-Yungoo (capital Bunkpurugu), Central Gonja (Buipe), Karaga (Karaga), Nanumba South (Wulensi), and Sawla-Tuna-Kalba (Sawla).

In addition, ghanadistricts.com says: "New districts and municipalities were created in the year 2008 by ex-President, J.A. Kufuor. The assemblies were inaugurated at their various locations simultaneously on the 29th of February 2008.

The ex-President by an Executive Instrument (E.I) created 27 new Districts, 4 Municipalities, Upgraded 27 existing Districts and 2 existing Municipalities. All the inaugurated and confirmed MMDAs established became operational at the same time, hence bringing the total number of MMDAs to 169.

The new assemblies were created with consideration for the large geographical area some of the then 138 MMDAs controlled, which was not one way or the other allowing the government to fully implement its policies of local governance to the benefit of the entire citizenry."