

# Kumasi City Profile From 1993 To 2022: A Review Article

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## **Abstract:**

Kumasi is the Capital city of the Ashante Kingdom and the second-most-important city in Ghana. Kumasi is very rich in cultural history, hence it was chosen as the second city in Ghana for 'Istanbul+5', a documentation of the United Nations UN on housing and infrastructure development in various countries. The objectives of the paper include assessing to see what has happened since the United Nations (UN) 'Istanbul+5' documentation on the city in 1999. It is also to give a true account of the report, using the period of Istanbul+5 as the baseline data. The main findings are structured into six sections of the UN Istanbul+5 document viz: 1. Shelter, 2. Social Development, 3. The Environment, 4. Economic Development, 5. Governance, while 6. is International Cooperation. In conclusion, it must be noted that as with most public institutions in developing countries, reliable data is almost impossible to come by. However, efforts have been made to employ the base data as compiled by the Author during the '1993 – 1998' 'Istanbul+5' compilation and supplement them with online resources. Where such online sources and other secondary information have been employed, appropriate citations have been made.

**Keywords:** 'Istanbul+5', City Profile, Sustainable Development, Urbanisation, Kumasi

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Date of Submission: 01-05-2023

Date of acceptance: 10-05-2023

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## **I. Introduction**

The History of Kumasi, the Chief Clan of Ancient Ashante Kingdom shows that during the reign of Chief Oti Akenten, around 1630 – 1660, many successful military raids on neighboring Akan states were carried out. This brought some conquered territories into an alliance with Kumasi as the major Ashanti Kingdom. Osei Tutu, whose reign ended around 1712 or 1717 became the king of Ashanti [he was called Asantehene] During Osei Tutu's reign, the Confederacy of Ashanti states expanded to become an empire with the Imperial City at Kumasi (Wikipedia.net, 2022)

In Ghana, Kumasi is very significant. This was the reason the United Nations selected the city as one of the five anglophone cities in the West African subregion for the United Nations General Assembly special program named "Istanbul+5". Istanbul+5 was documented for a disaggregated study from 1993 to 1998 by the United Nations Habitat Program (UN-Habitat) for the United Nations (UN) General Assembly. The author was assigned Kumasi City.

As the selected 'Expert/Specialist Consultant' on the city, the Author of this paper is writing a follow-up paper to 'Istanbul + 5' to know if things have changed and how well the change is impacting the city.

## **Method**

The paper is structured into six sections like the UN 'Istanbul+5' base document. It started with Chapter 1 – Shelter, Chapter 2 - Social Development, Chapter 3- the Environment, Chapter 4 – Economic Development, Chapter 5 – Governance, and Chapter 6 -concludes the Report with International Cooperation.

## **MAIN FINDINGS**

### **Background**

Kumasi is the capital city in the Ashante Kingdom. It is the second largest city in Ghana. The city is located in the north-central part of Ghana.



Figure 1: Map of Kumasi Metropolitan City, Ghana

**1: SHELTER**

**1.1 SECURITY OF TENURE IN KUMASI, GHANA FROM 1993 – 2022**

Security of tenure in Kumasi or anywhere in Africa during the period under review is a formality. For example, after all the years and Committees on Security of Tenure, it is a skin-deep issue that has little or no constitutional underpinning.

1. Provide security of tenure  
Indicator 1 - tenure types  
city and country levels

Type of tenure:	1993	1998	1993	1998
	% of all households	% of all households	% of women-headed households	% of women-headed households
<b>1. Formal Ownership:</b>				
Owned	16.9%	17.1%	19.9%	23.5%
Purchasing (not/just)	1.2%	3.2%	4.5%	4.5%
sub-total	18.1%	20.3%	24.4%	28.0%
<b>2. Tenancy:</b>				
Private rental	55.1%	54.9%	37.0%	35.0%
Social Housing	1.8%	2.1%	7.0%	15.0%
Sub-tenant	0.3%	0.4%	3.5%	5.0%
sub-total	57.2%	57.4%	47.5%	55.0%
<b>3. Squatter:</b>				
without rent	6.0%	4.8%	17.5%	15.0%
with rent	0.1%	0.4%	1.5%	1.5%
sub-total	6.1%	5.2%	19.0%	16.5%
<b>4. Other</b>				
homeless	16.0%	15.0%	9.0%	0.5%
other	2.6%	2.1%	0.1%	0.0%
sub-total	18.6%	17.1%	9.1%	0.5%
TOTAL (should be equal to 100%)	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

please provide sub-totals if information is not available for the requested level of total.

Figure 2. Shelter Tenure Types in Kumasi, Ghana: 1993-1998

The existing role of chiefs in land acquisition and administration can be traced back to the early days of Kumasi and Ghana as an entity. Despite the changes and reforms, the political class in various shades and divides keep on manipulating things to suit their perception of land ownership – see Figure 2 (Osei Tutu, Asante, Appiah, Bendzko, & Chigbu, 2016)

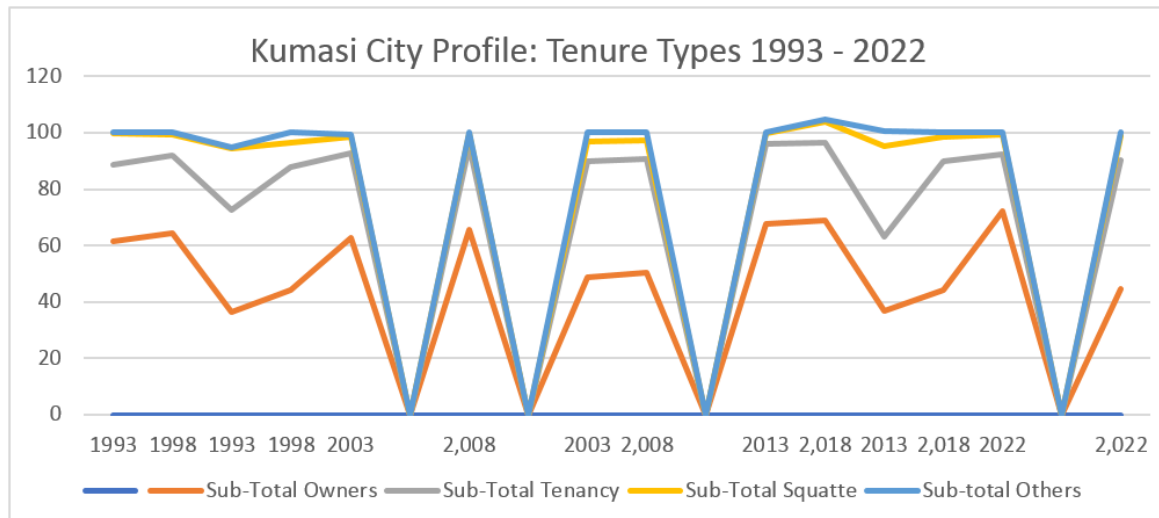


Figure 3. Kumasi City Profile Tenure Types: 1993-2022

Security of tenure in Kumasi, Ghana from 1993 to 2022 refers to the protection and guarantee of citizens' rights to adequate housing and their ability to remain in their homes without fear of forced evictions or other forms of displacement – see Figure 3. The concept of security of tenure encompasses various legal and policy frameworks aimed at promoting stable and secure housing conditions for all.

Literature shows that over the past several decades, the government of Ghana has taken steps to improve the security of tenure in Kumasi and throughout the country. This has included the creation of legislation and policies aimed at regulating land use and ensuring that citizens' rights to housing are respected (BTI TRANSFORMATION INDEX, 2022). Despite these efforts, however, many residents of Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana continue to face challenges related to the security of tenure, such as informal settlements, forced evictions, and inadequate housing conditions as shown in Figures 2 & 3.

It is important to note that the situation regarding the security of tenure in Kumasi and Ghana has evolved over the past several decades and that various factors, including population growth, urbanization, and economic development, have had a significant impact on the issue. Efforts to improve the security of tenure in Kumasi and other urban areas will likely continue to be a challenge in the years to come and will require a sustained commitment from the government, civil society, and other stakeholders to stop it.

## 1.2 RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING IN KUMASI, GHANA FROM 1993 – 2022

It has been found that Affordable Housing in Kumasi is not sufficient. This is because, housing units in the city, where available, are poorly built and most of them are not fit for human habitation (Boamah, 2011).

Theoretically, there is a right to adequate housing in Kumasi, Ghana. The right to adequate housing is recognized as a fundamental human right under international law, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), which was ratified by Ghana in 1983. The major problem is the quality of housing stock that is available for human habitation.

Some scholars showed that Ghana's Constitution recognizes the right to adequate housing as part of the right to life, and the government has taken steps to implement this right through various policies and programs aimed at improving housing conditions for citizens. However, despite these efforts, many residents of Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana still face challenges related to access to adequate housing, including informal settlements, forced evictions, and inadequate housing conditions (Amoako & Boamah, 2017).

It is important to note that the right to adequate housing is not absolute, and may be subject to certain limitations. However, any limitations on this right must be reasonable, necessary, proportionate, and aimed at achieving a legitimate objective. Additionally, the right to adequate housing must be respected, protected, and fulfilled by the state, and the government has a positive obligation to take steps to ensure that all citizens have access to adequate housing – See Figure 4 below..

2. Promote the right to adequate housing

qualitative data 1: housing rights

country level

**1. Does the Constitution or national law**  
 promote the full and progressive realisation of the right to adequate housing ?   
 include protections against eviction?

**2. Are there particular impediments :**

to owning land ?   
 to inheriting land and housing ?   
 to taking mortgages in their own names ?   
 to women owning land ?   
 to women inheriting land and housing ?   
 to women taking mortgages in their own names ?   
 to particular groups owning land ?   
 Non-Nationals   
 to particular groups inheriting land and housing ?   
 Non-Indigenes   
 to particular groups taking mortgages in their own names ?   
 please name the groups

Please describe any changes in terms of housing rights since 1996:  
 There are improvements in government policies and actions. These can be attributed to the new democratic dispensation in the country.

Figure 4. Right to Adequate Housing in Kumasi, Ghana

1.3 ACCESS TO LAND IN KUMASI, GHANA FROM 1993 – 2022

Access to arable land is becoming increasingly difficult in Kumasi and the rest of Ghana. There is a crisis of urban forest decline in Kumasi and in the country as a whole. Problems associated with urban forestry are related to land access and exclusion Rather than improving, government regulations continue to exacerbate the situation till 2022 (Opoku, 2021)

3. Promote equal access to land

Indicator 4: Land price-to-income ratio

city level

**1993**

	Land price			Income	Land price to income ratio
	Minimum price of 1 m2	Maximum price of 1 m2	Median price of 1m2	Median Household income per month (US \$ 1993)	
Highly developed land	\$6.58	\$8.27	\$7.35	\$71.55	0.10
Developed land	\$5.12	\$6.90	\$6.12		
Raw land	\$2.58	\$4.12	\$3.35		

city level

**1998**

	Land price			Income	Land price to income ratio
	Minimum price of 1 m2	Maximum price of 1 m2	Median price of 1m2	Median Household income per month (US \$ 1998)	
Highly developed land	\$6.6	\$8.3	\$7.4	\$78.45	0.09
Developed land	\$5.1	\$6.9	\$6.1		
Raw land	\$2.6	\$4.1	\$3.4		

What changes do these results suggest in terms of land affordability ?  
 Due to rising cost of land relative to low increase in the Household Income it is apparent that land is becoming less affordable in the data from 1993 and 1998.

Figure 5. Access to Land in Kumasi, Ghana: 1993-1998

Access to land in Kumasi, Ghana from 1993 to 2022 has been a complex issue, with various challenges and barriers affecting citizens' ability to secure land and maintain ownership – as shown in Figure 5.

The Constitution of Ghana recognizes the right to own and occupy property. However, the implementation of this right has been hindered by various factors, including informal and customary land tenure systems, weak land administration and management systems, and a lack of clear and secure land tenure rights (Nara, Lengoiboni, & Zevenbergen, 2021).

Overall, while access to land in Kumasi and Ghana has improved in recent years, it remains a challenge for many citizens, and further efforts will be needed to ensure that all residents have access to adequate and secure housing.

1.4 ACCESS TO CREDIT IN KUMASI, GHANA FROM 1993 – 2022

As important as the financial performance of financial institutions is to shareholders, investors, regulators, and other stakeholders, the situation in Kumasi is precarious. Results from random tests show that negative impacts

are very common. Kwashie’s research team argued that this is not good for the credit rating of the financial institutions and the populace (Kwashie, Baidoo, Ayesu, & McMillian, 2022)

Various forms of access to credit have been available in Kumasi, Ghana from 1993 to 2022. These have included both formal and informal financial institutions, such as:

**1.4.1. Banks:** Formal banks, including commercial banks, rural banks, and microfinance institutions, have provided various forms of credit to individuals and businesses in Kumasi.

**1.4.2. Microfinance Institutions:** Microfinance institutions, such as savings and loan companies, have emerged as an important source of credit for small businesses and low-income households.

**1.4.3. Savings and Credit Associations (SCAs):** Savings and credit associations, also known as rotating savings and credit associations (ROSCAs), have been a popular form of informal credit in Kumasi.

**1.4.4. Pawn Shops:** Pawn shops have also been available in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana, offering short-term loans secured by the borrower’s assets.

**1.4.5. Family and Friends:** Informal loans from family and friends have also been a common source of credit for individuals and businesses in Kumasi and other parts of Ghana.

It is important to note that access to credit in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana has been influenced by various factors, including economic conditions, government policies, and the availability of formal financial institutions.

### 1.5 ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES IN KUMASI, GHANA FROM 1993 – 2022

Figure 6 demonstrates how access to basic services in Kumasi is hindered by human vested interests for various reasons. These include efficiency, quality of service, and inclusion (Kpessa-Whyte & Dzisah, 2022)

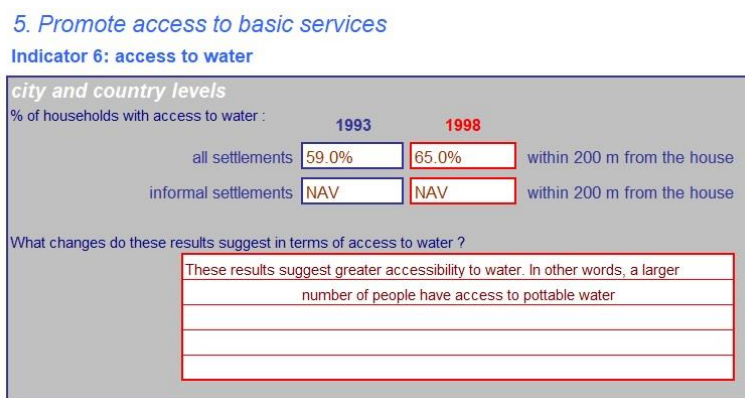


Figure 6. Access to Basic Services in Kumasi, Ghana: 1993-1998

Access to basic services, including health care, education, water, and sanitation, in Kumasi, Ghana from 1993 to 2022 has been a major challenge for many residents. Despite efforts by the government and other stakeholders to improve access to these services, many residents, particularly those in low-income communities, have faced significant barriers to accessing these services – see Figure 6..

**1.5.1. Health Care:** Access to quality health care in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana has been limited, with inadequate funding, a shortage of trained medical professionals, and a lack of modern medical facilities contributing to the challenges faced by many residents.

**1.5.2. Education:** Access to quality education in Kumasi and other parts of Ghana has also been a challenge, with high dropout rates, low levels of educational attainment, and inadequate funding for schools among the major issues faced by many residents.

**1.5.3. Water and Sanitation:** Access to clean water and proper sanitation in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana has also been a challenge, with many residents facing limited access to these basic services. This has contributed to public health problems and a lack of basic hygiene (UNICEF, 2021).

Overall, while access to basic services in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana has improved in recent years, it remains a challenge for many residents, and further efforts will be needed to ensure that all residents have access to these essential services.

### 1.6 Household Connections Water, Sewerage, Electricity, And Telephone In Kumasi

Access to household connections for water, sewerage, electricity, and telephone in Kumasi, Ghana from 1993 to 2022 has improved significantly over the past several decades, although many residents, particularly those in low-income communities, continue to face barriers to accessing these services – see Figure 7.

**1.6.1. Water:** Access to clean water in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana has improved over the past several decades, with increased investment in water infrastructure and increased access to piped water for many residents. However, many residents, particularly those in informal settlements, continue to face limited access to clean water and rely on alternative sources, such as wells and public taps.

**1.6.2. Sewerage:** Access to proper sewerage systems in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana has also improved over the past several decades, with increased investment in sewerage infrastructure and increased access to sewerage services for many residents. However, many residents, particularly those in informal settlements, continue to face limited access to proper sewerage systems and rely on alternative means of disposal, such as pit latrines.

**1.6.3. Electricity:** Access to electricity in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana has improved over the past several decades, with increased power infrastructure and access to electricity for many residents. However, many residents, particularly those in low-income communities, continue to face limited access to electricity and rely on alternative sources, such as generators and battery-powered lamps.

**1.6.4. Telephone:** Access to telephone services in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana has also improved over the past several decades, with increased investment in telecom infrastructure and increased access to telephone services for many residents. However, many residents, particularly those in low-income communities, continue to face limited access to telephone services and rely on alternative means of communication, such as public telephones. The irregular data on this subject is demonstrated in Figure 7.

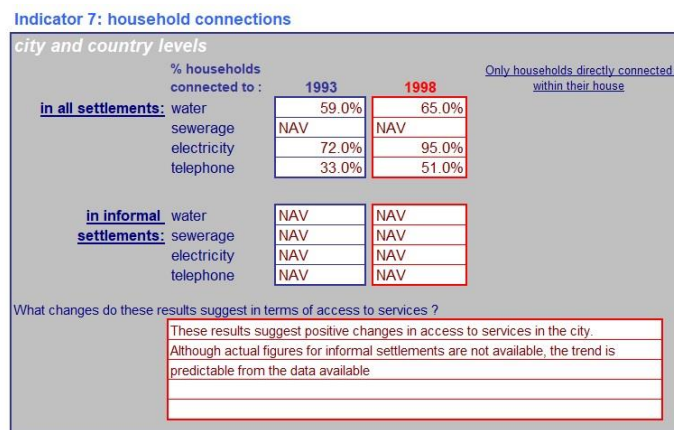


Figure 7. Household Connections in Kumasi, Ghana: 1993-1998

While access to household connections for water, sewerage, electricity, and telephone in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana has improved over the past several decades, many residents continue to face barriers to accessing these services, and further efforts will be needed to ensure that all residents have access to these essential services.

## 2: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ERADICATION OF POVERTY

### 2.1 Health and Safety in Kumasi, Ghana

Necessary policies and required health and safety standards for occupational workers in Kumasi and other cities in Ghana are not followed. The health workers are regularly exposed to occupational health hazards (Tawiah, et al., 2022)

Health and safety in Kumasi, Ghana have improved from 1993 to 2022, although challenges remain. Here are some of the key developments in this area:

**2.1.1. Health:** Over the past several decades, the government and other stakeholders have made significant investments in health care in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana. This has included the construction of new health facilities, the training of additional medical professionals, and the implementation of healthcare programs aimed at improving the health of residents.

**2.1.2. Safety:** The safety of residents in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana has also improved. The government has increased investment in public safety and security, including the deployment of additional police officers, the construction of police stations, and the implementation of community policing programs.

**2.1.3. Disease Control:** Ghana has made significant progress in controlling diseases such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis, through a combination of prevention, treatment, and care programs.

**2.1.4. Improved Sanitation:** Improved sanitation and hygiene practices have also contributed to improved health and safety in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana.

## **2.2 Reported Crime Rates In Kumasi From 1993 – 2022**

There is no recorded data on reported crime rates in Kumasi, Ghana for the period 1993 to 2022 (Wrigley-Asante, Owusu, Amu, & Commodore, 2021 - Accessed on 04 February 2023).

## **2.3 Social Integration In Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 – 2022**

Colonial sentiments and cultural interpretations have shaped the typical ideas of social integration in Kumasi and many cities in the west African sub-region (Schmidt, 2006)

### **2.4 Social Integration In Kumasi, Ghana**

Social integration in Kumasi, Ghana has changed and developed from 1993 to 2022. Here are some of the key forms of social integration that have been obtainable in Kumasi during this period:

**2.4.1. Community Development:** Over the past several decades, community development programs have been implemented in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana, aimed at fostering greater social integration and building stronger, more cohesive communities. These programs have included the development of community-based organizations, the creation of community centers and public spaces, and the implementation of programs aimed at promoting community engagement and civic participation.

**2.4.2. Education:** Access to education has also improved in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana over the past several decades, helping to promote greater social integration and reducing socio-economic inequality. This has included increased investment in education infrastructure, the training of additional teachers, and the implementation of programs aimed at promoting literacy and reducing the drop-out rate.

**2.4.3. Employment:** Improved employment opportunities in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana have helped to promote greater social integration and reduce poverty. This has included increased investment in the local economy, the creation of new jobs, and the promotion of entrepreneurship and small business development.

**2.4.4. Cultural and Religious Tolerance:** Over the past several decades, the government and other stakeholders in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana have made efforts to promote greater cultural and religious tolerance, foster greater social integration and reduce tensions between different groups. This has included the promotion of inter-faith dialogue, the celebration of cultural and religious events, and the implementation of programs aimed at promoting understanding and respect between different groups.

## **2.5 Support To Disadvantaged Groups In Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 – 2022**

Despite the promising notes of 1998, there are still a lot of differences in the ease of access and availability of health care among the vulnerable groups in Kumasi in 2022. National Library of Medicine (2022) found that prominent among these disparities include distance, cost or affordability, stigmatization, and staff attitude (National Library of Medicine, 2022)

From 1993 to 2022, various forms of support to disadvantaged groups have been available in Kumasi, Ghana. Here are some of the key types of support that have been offered:

**2.5.1. Social Protection:** The government of Ghana, along with other stakeholders, has implemented a range of social protection programs aimed at supporting disadvantaged groups, including the elderly, children, people with disabilities, and others. These programs have included cash transfers, subsidies for basic services, and support for vulnerable groups in times of crisis.

**2.5.2. Health Care:** Health care has been made more accessible to disadvantaged groups in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana over the past several decades, with the expansion of public health facilities and the implementation of health care programs aimed at improving the health of marginalized populations.

**2.5.3. Education:** Access to education has been improved for disadvantaged groups in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana over the past several decades, with increased investment in education infrastructure and programs aimed at reducing socio-economic inequality. This has included programs aimed at improving school attendance and reducing the drop-out rate, as well as scholarships and other forms of financial support for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

**2.5.4. Economic Empowerment:** Programs aimed at promoting economic empowerment for disadvantaged groups in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana have been implemented over the past several decades, to reduce poverty and promote greater social and economic integration. This has included microfinance programs, job training, and other forms of support for small businesses and entrepreneurs.

## **2.6 Gender Equality In Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 – 2022**

Gender Equality is still a mirage in 21<sup>st</sup>-century Kumasi and the entire urban centers of Ghana – as shown in Figures 8a and 8b. The situation has been further exacerbated by the religious views of various religious organizations in Kumasi and the entire country (Frimpong, 2022)

8. Promote gender equality in human settlements development  
indicator 11: female-male gaps

city and country levels			
1993 data	female	male	1993 female-male gap
Primary school enrolment ratio	NAV	NAV	NAV %
Secondary school enrolment ratio	NAV	NAV	NAV %
Tertiary school enrolment ratio	NAV	NAV	NAV %
Adult literacy rate	73.1%	84.7%	11.6% %
Life expectancy at birth	69.1	69.5	2.6 years
Under-five mortality	0.92%	0.99%	0.07% %
Unemployment	NAV	NAV	NAV %
number of elected or nominated councillor at the local level per 10,000	NAV	NAV	NAV /10,000 population

city and country levels			
1998 data	female	male	1998 female-male gap
Primary school enrolment ratio	NAV	NAV	NAV %
Secondary school enrolment ratio	NAV	NAV	NAV %
Tertiary school enrolment ratio	NAV	NAV	NAV %
Adult literacy rate	74.5%	87.3%	12.8% %
Life expectancy at birth	69.0	69.2	2.8 years
Under-five mortality	0.96%	0.99%	0.03% %
Unemployment	NAV	NAV	NAV %
number of elected or nominated councillor at the local level per 10,000	1.2	3.3	2.1 /10,000 population

What measures have been undertaken to reduce the female-male gaps?

Special awareness programmes for women and the girl-child  
31st Women Group. An advocacy for improved welfare for women is at the forefront of this women campaign. The National Council for Women and Development has a list of programmes in collaboration with Ghana Education Ministry specifically designed for women!  
There are programmes in science and technology, formal and non formal education specifically designed to meet the increasing needs of the women.

Figure 8a. Gender Equality in Kumasi, GHANA: 1993

Figure 8b. Gender Equality in Kumasi, GHANA: 1998

Beyond 1998 to 2022, gender equality in Kumasi, Ghana has changed and developed from 1993 to 2022. Here are some of the key factors that have shaped the state of gender equality in Kumasi during this period:

**2.6.1. Legal Frameworks:** Over the past several decades, the government of Ghana has enacted a range of legal frameworks aimed at promoting gender equality and protecting the rights of women and girls. These laws have included provisions aimed at eliminating discrimination in areas such as education, employment, and property rights, as well as provisions aimed at addressing gender-based violence and other forms of gender-based discrimination.

**2.6.2. Education:** Access to education has improved for girls and women in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana over the past several decades, with increased investment in education infrastructure and programs aimed at reducing socio-economic inequality. This has included programs aimed at improving school attendance and reducing the drop-out rate, as well as scholarships and other forms of financial support for girls and women.

**2.6.3. Economic Empowerment:** Programs aimed at promoting economic empowerment for women and girls in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana have been implemented over the past several decades, to reduce poverty and promote gender equality. This has included microfinance programs, job training, and other forms of support for women-owned businesses and female entrepreneurs.

**2.6.4. Political Participation:** Women's political participation has increased in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana over the past several decades, with the adoption of gender quota systems and other measures aimed at increasing the representation of women in government and other decision-making bodies.

3: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

3.1 Population And Population Growth Of Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 – 2022

The population and population growth of Kumasi, Ghana has changed and developed from 1993 to 2022. Here is an overview of the population and population growth of Kumasi during this period:\

**3.1.1. Population:** Kumasi is one of the largest cities in Ghana, and its population has been growing steadily over the past several decades, with estimates suggesting that the population of Kumasi was approximately 2 million in 2022.

**3.1.2. Population Growth:** The population growth of Kumasi has been driven by a combination of factors, including migration from rural areas, natural population growth, and urbanization. Over the past several decades, the population of Kumasi has grown at a moderate pace, with estimates suggesting that the population of the city has increased by approximately 2-3% per year as shown in Figure 10.

9. Promote geographically-balanced settlement structures					
indicator 12 - urban population growth					
city and country levels					
The annual growth rate should be taken for the last five years (1993-1998). If another reference period was taken for the calculation, please indicate: starting year: 1993 ending year: 1998 for the period					
	Male population	Female population	Total population		
<b>1993</b>					
Metropolitan area*	294 000	321 000	615 000	in thousand population	
Urban Agglomeration**	364 000	370 000	733 000	in thousand population	
National Urban	3.3	3.4	6.8	in millions	
National	8.1	9.2	18.3	in millions	
<b>1998</b>					
Metropolitan area*	389 000	391 000	780 000	in thousand population	
Urban Agglomeration**	405 000	413 000	818 000	in thousand population	
National Urban	3.9	3.9	7.8	in millions	
National	8.8	9.9	18.8	in millions	
<b>Growth rate:</b>					in percentage
Metropolitan area*	3.5%	3.5%	3.0%		
Urban Agglomeration**	3.6%	3.6%	3.1%		
National Urban	3.3%	3.3%	2.2%		
National	3.5%	3.4%	2.5%		

\* see definitions in the companion guide

Figure 10. Urban Population Growth in Kumasi, Ghana: 1993-1998



Overall, the population and population growth of Kumasi has been shaped by a combination of demographic, economic, and social factors, and has been driven by a combination of migration, natural population growth, and urbanization. The continued growth of the city is likely to pose significant challenges for policymakers and local authorities, including the need to provide adequate housing, basic services, and infrastructure for a growing population. The 2022 Ghanaian population is 3,630,000 and the population growth rate is 4.01% (Macrotrends, 2022; PopulationStat, 2022).

### 3.2 Geographical Balance In Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 To 2022

In contemporary Kumasi, Akans have a higher representation of Akan people in the City. It was found that this is higher than the National average of 49%. It must be stated that Ewe and Ga-Dangme are not as represented as Akan in Kumasi (Owusu, 2022),

Geographical balance refers to the distribution of economic, social, and environmental resources and opportunities across different regions or areas within a city or country. In Kumasi, Ghana, the geographical balance has changed and developed from 1993 to 2022. Here are some of the key factors that have shaped the geographical balance in Kumasi during this period:

**3.2.1. Urbanisation:** Over the past several decades, Kumasi has experienced rapid urbanization, with significant population growth in the city and its suburbs. This has led to increased pressure on land and resources and has contributed to the concentration of economic, social, and environmental resources and opportunities in certain areas of the city.

**3.2.2. Economic Development:** The economic development of Kumasi has been uneven, with some areas of the city benefiting more from growth and investment than others. This has contributed to the unequal distribution of resources and opportunities across different regions of the city.

**3.2.3. Infrastructure and Services:** Access to basic services and infrastructure, such as water, electricity, transportation, and healthcare, has been uneven across different regions of Kumasi, with some areas having better access to these resources and opportunities than others.

**3.2.4. Housing and Urban Planning:** Housing and urban planning in Kumasi have been shaped by a combination of economic, social, and environmental factors, and have contributed to the unequal distribution of resources and opportunities across different regions of the city.

### 3.3 Water Supply And Demand In Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 – 2022

As governments and policymakers struggle to cope with the trends of providing safe and potable water in Kumasi and other cities of Ghana and the entire west African sub-region, efforts must be stepped up to contain the threat to drinking water in the sub-region. This threat is remarkably on the increase because of the proliferation of drinking water through sachet water that is subjected to minimal health checks and quality control mechanisms (Moulds, et al., 2022).

#### 10. Manage supply and demand for water in an effective manner

Indicator 13: Consumption of water

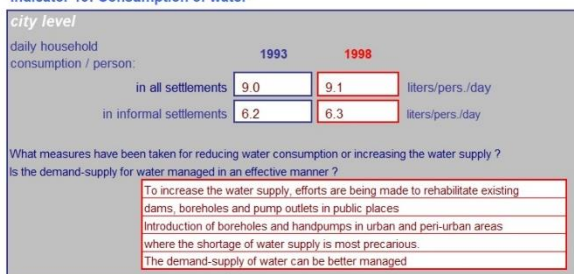


Figure 11a. Consumption of Water in Kumasi

Indicator 14: Median price of water

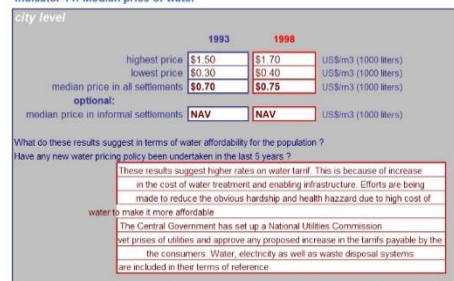


Figure 11b. Median Price of Water

The situation of water supply and demand in Kumasi, Ghana has changed and developed from 1993 to 2022 – as demonstrated in Figure 11a and 11b. Here are some of the key factors that have shaped the water supply and demand situation in Kumasi during this period:

**3.3.1. Supply:** The water supply in Kumasi has been affected by a combination of factors, including population growth, urbanization, and climate change. Over the past several decades, the population of Kumasi has grown rapidly, putting increased pressure on the city's water supply infrastructure and resources.

**3.3.2. Demand:** The demand for water in Kumasi has increased significantly over the past several decades, driven by population growth, urbanization, and industrial and commercial development. The increasing water demand has put pressure on the city's water supply infrastructure and resources.

**3.3.3. Water Sources:** Kumasi's water supply is sourced from a combination of surface and groundwater sources, including rivers, lakes, and underground aquifers. Over the past several decades, the quality and availability of water from these sources have been affected by a range of factors, including pollution, over-extraction, and climate change.

**3.3.4. Water Management:** The management of water supply and demand in Kumasi has been shaped by a combination of economic, social, and environmental factors, and has been influenced by the need to ensure adequate and sustainable water supply for a growing population, while also protecting the city's water resources and environment.

Rural-Urban migration increased urbanization, and industrialization, population upsurge, and urban agriculture, among other indicators of urbanization, have exploited the limited amount of fresh and potable water available in cities like Kumasi in Ghana

**3.4 Urban Pollution In Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 – 2022**

Urban Pollution in Kumasi, Ghana has been a growing issue from 1993 to 2022 (Abass, Adanu, & Agyemang, 2018). Here are some of the key factors that have contributed to urban pollution in Kumasi during this period:

**3.4.1. Rapid Urbanization:** Kumasi has experienced rapid urbanization over the past several decades, with significant population growth and increased demand for industrial and commercial development. This has contributed to increased levels of pollution from a range of sources, including traffic, industrial processes, and waste management.

**3.4.2. Industrial Development:** The industrial development of Kumasi has contributed to increased levels of pollution, particularly from emissions from factories and industrial processes.

**3.4.3. Waste Management:** The management of waste in Kumasi has been a growing challenge over the past several decades, with increasing levels of waste generated by the growing population and increased economic and industrial activity in the city – as shown in Figure 12. This has contributed to increased levels of pollution and environmental degradation.

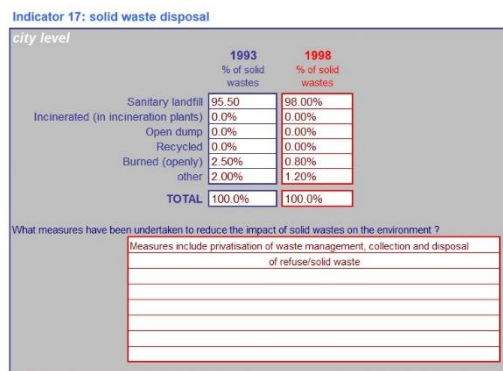


Figure 12. Solid Waste Disposal in Kumasi, Ghana: 1993-1998

**3.4.4. Traffic:** The growth of motorized transport in Kumasi has contributed to increased levels of air and noise pollution, particularly in the city center and other densely populated areas.

**3.4.5. Climate Change:** The effects of climate change, including changing precipitation patterns, increased temperatures, and more extreme weather events, have had a significant impact on the environment in Kumasi and have contributed to increased levels of pollution and environmental degradation.

On the whole, Urban Pollution in Kumasi, Ghana has been shaped by a combination of demographic, economic, and environmental factors, and has been influenced by the need to balance economic and industrial development with environmental protection. Addressing the challenge of reducing urban pollution in Kumasi will be important for ensuring sustainable and equitable development in the city and other urban areas in Ghana.

It has been shown that the sediment quality was poor in the three main rivers in Kumasi – Suntre, Wiwi, and Subin. The study found the sediment quality and impact of human activities on the water unacceptable (Darko, et al., 2022)

**3.5 Disaster Management In Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 – 2022**

The two principal urban communities in Kumasi, Ghana are always in constant fear of flooding and attendant natural disaster during the rainy seasons of the year. This is despite the recommendations that local communities should be empowered to take social responsibility and build resilient communities capable of responding to flooding (Ahadzie, Dinye, Dinye, & Proverbs, 2016)

Urban pollution in Kumasi, Ghana has been a growing issue from 1993 to 2022. Here are some of the key factors that have contributed to urban pollution in Kumasi during this period:

**3.5.1. Rapid Urbanisation:** Kumasi has experienced rapid urbanization over the past several decades, with significant population growth and increased demand for industrial and commercial development. This has contributed to increased levels of pollution from a range of sources, including traffic, industrial processes, and waste management.

**3.5.2. Industrial Development:** The industrial development of Kumasi has contributed to increased levels of pollution, particularly from emissions from factories and industrial processes.

**3.5.3. Waste Management:** The management of waste in Kumasi has been a growing challenge over the past several decades, with increasing levels of waste generated by the growing population and increased economic and industrial activity in the city. This has contributed to increased levels of pollution and environmental degradation.

**3.5.4. Traffic:** The growth of motorized transport in Kumasi has contributed to increased levels of air and noise pollution, particularly in the city center and other densely populated areas.

**3.5.5. Climate Change:** The effects of climate change, including changing precipitation patterns, increased temperatures, and more extreme weather events, have had a significant impact on the environment in Kumasi and have contributed to increased levels of pollution and environmental degradation.

In conclusion, urban pollution in Kumasi, Ghana has been shaped by a combination of demographic, economic, and environmental factors, and has been influenced by the need to balance economic and industrial development with environmental protection. Addressing the challenge of reducing urban pollution in Kumasi will be important for ensuring sustainable and equitable development in the city and other urban areas in Ghana

### **3.6 Prevent Disasters and Rebuild Settlements**

The efficiency of disaster management in Kumasi, Ghana from 1993 to 2022 has evolved and improved over time. However, it is still a challenge to manage natural and man-made disasters in Kumasi and other cities in Ghana (Mensah-Bonsu, 2022). Here are some of the key factors that have impacted disaster management in Kumasi over this period:

**3.6.1. Limited Resources:** Disaster management in Kumasi has been impacted by limited resources, including financial, technical, and human resources, to respond effectively to disasters.

**3.6.2. Inadequate Infrastructure:** The infrastructure for disaster management in Kumasi and other cities in Ghana is often inadequate, with limited access to equipment and resources to respond effectively to disasters.

**3.6.3. Lack of Coordination:** Coordination between different agencies and organizations involved in disaster management can be limited, making it more difficult to respond effectively to disasters and ensure the provision of adequate services to those affected.

**3.6.4. Climate Change:** Climate change has led to an increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters in Kumasi and other cities in Ghana, requiring a more effective and coordinated response to disaster management.

**3.6.5. Public Awareness:** A lack of public awareness about disaster risk and preparedness can limit the effectiveness of disaster management in Kumasi, with people not knowing what to do in an emergency or how to prepare for disasters.

### **3.7 The Transport Situation in Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 – 2022**

Kumasi has manifested weak and inadequate planning and policy responses over many years. This has contributed largely to the city's inability to manage the negative impacts of transport infrastructure in the city (Yeboah & Asibey, 2019).

The transport situation in Kumasi, Ghana from 1993 to 2022 has undergone significant changes and improvements. Here are some of the key factors that have impacted the transport sector in Kumasi over this period:

**3.7.1. Urbanisation:** Kumasi has experienced rapid urbanization over the past decades, which has put pressure on the city's transport system, leading to increased congestion and growing demand for public transportation.

**3.7.2. Investment in Transportation:** There has been increased investment in the transportation sector in Kumasi, including the construction of new roads, the expansion of existing ones, and the introduction of new public transportation options.

**3.7.3. Improved Public Transportation:** The public transportation system in Kumasi has improved significantly from 1993 to 2022, with the introduction of new bus rapid transit (BRT) systems, improved minibuses and "tro-tro" services, and increased use of taxi services.

**3.7.4. Increased Private Vehicle Ownership:** The number of private vehicles in Kumasi has increased from 1993 to 2022, leading to increased traffic congestion and growing demand for parking spaces.

**3.7.5. Road Safety:** The issue of road safety has become a growing concern in Kumasi and other cities in Ghana, with the increasing number of private vehicles and motorcycles on the roads, leading to an increase in accidents and road fatalities.

**3.7.6. Integration with Regional Transportation:** There has been an effort to improve the integration of the transportation system in Kumasi with regional transportation, including the expansion of intercity roads and the development of new transportation hubs.

**3.8 Travel Time In Kumasi From 1993 - 2022**

The travel time in Kumasi Metropolis from 1993 to 2022 has changed over this period, as a result of some factors, including urbanisation, investment in transportation infrastructure, changes in traffic patterns, and the introduction of new transportation options (Owusu-Ansah, et al., 2022). It is difficult to determine exact travel times without access to specific data and studies, but travel times in Kumasi have also increased from 1993 to 2022, due to increasing congestion caused by population growth and increased private vehicle ownership – as demonstrated in Figure 13.

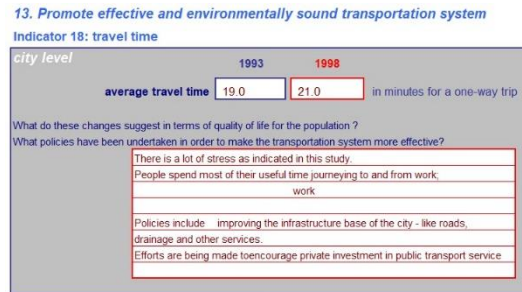


Figure 13. Travel Time in Kumasi, Ghana: 1993-1998

The introduction of new public transportation options, such as bus rapid transit (BRT) systems, improved minibus and “tro-tro” services, and the expansion of existing road networks, may have helped to reduce travel times for some people in Kumasi, particularly for those using public transportation.

**3.9 Local Environmental Planning And Local Agenda 21 In Kumasi, Ghana**

Kumasi is one city that rarely demonstrates the citizen’s keen knowledge of their Urban Green Infrastructure [UGI]. Unfortunately, research has shown that in the period 1991 to 2019, the city has lost about 80% of its entire urban green infrastructure and its attendant local environmental quality (Cobbinah, Nyame, & Darkwah, 2022)

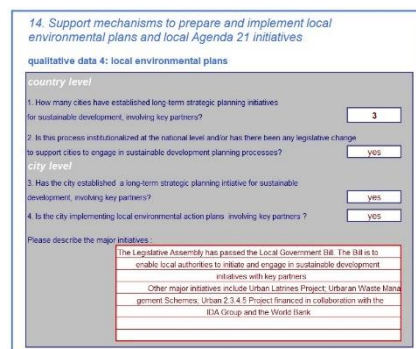


Figure 15. Local Agenda 21 in Kumasi, Ghana

The implementation of local environmental planning and Local Agenda 21 in Kumasi, Ghana from 1993 to 2022 has been a mix of progress and challenges. Local Agenda 21 is a global initiative aimed at promoting sustainable development, and it has been adopted by many cities around the world, including Kumasi (National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), 2022). Here are some of the key factors that have impacted the implementation of Local Agenda 21 and local environmental planning in Kumasi over this period:

**3.9.1. Urbanisation:** Kumasi has experienced rapid urbanization over the past decades, which has put pressure on the city's natural resources and infrastructure, leading to increased environmental degradation and a growing demand for environmental protection.

**3.9.2. Investment in environmental protection:** There has been increased investment in environmental protection in Kumasi, including the development of new parks, the expansion of existing green spaces, and the introduction of new waste management and recycling systems.

**3.9.3. Increased awareness:** There has been an increase in public awareness about environmental issues in Kumasi, including concerns about air and water pollution, waste management, and the protection of natural resources.

**3.9.4. Enforcement of environmental regulations:** The enforcement of environmental regulations in Kumasi has improved from 1993 to 2022, with increased fines and penalties for environmental violations and the introduction of new environmental laws and policies.

**3.9.5. Implementation Challenges:** Despite these positive developments, there have also been challenges to the implementation of Local Agenda 21 and local environmental planning in Kumasi, including a lack of political will, limited funding and resources, and limited capacity to enforce environmental regulations.

#### **4: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

##### **4.1 Small And Micro-Enterprises In Kumasi, Ghana**

Research by the World Academy of Science, Engineering, and Technology shows that the involvement of Small and Medium Enterprises [SMEs] in wood processing at a given location in Kumasi has positively influenced the cost of production [yielding reduced cost of transportation] and an increase in sales. This is despite the problems of little or no access to credit and reduced advertisement of products (Amoateng, Cobbinah, & Ofori-Kumah, 2014)

The promotion and empowerment of small and micro-enterprises (SMEs) in Kumasi, Ghana from 1993 to 2022 have likely been a key part of the city's economic development strategy. Here are some of the key factors that have impacted the support and empowerment of SMEs in Kumasi over this period:

**4.1.1. Government Policies:** The government of Ghana has introduced a range of policies and programs aimed at supporting and empowering SMEs, including tax incentives, access to finance, and training and capacity-building programs.

**4.1.2. Access to Finance:** Access to finance has been a major challenge for SMEs in Kumasi and across Ghana, but over the past decades, there has been an increase in the number of financial institutions offering loans and other forms of financing to SMEs.

**4.1.3. Business Support Services:** There have also been efforts to provide business support services to SMEs in Kumasi, including business development services, market information and research, and assistance with marketing and branding.

**4.1.4. Private Sector Development:** The private sector has played a significant role in the promotion and empowerment of SMEs in Kumasi, with companies investing in SME development programs, offering mentorship and training, and providing access to new markets and customers.

**4.1.5. Challenges to SME Development:** Despite these positive developments, there have also been challenges to the promotion and empowerment of SMEs in Kumasi, including limited access to finance, a lack of skilled manpower, limited access to modern technology, and a challenging business environment.

##### **4.2 Informal Sector Developing In Kumasi, Ghana: 1993-2022**

Many innovative solutions by minority groups and women have employed innovative solutions to overcome years of acute shortage in the labor market salaried employment. Their activities are engaging well with the economic realities with attendant limited job opportunities, increasing urbanization, and accumulation of poverty (Owusu-Sekyere & Amoah, 2020)

The informal sector has been a significant part of the economy in Kumasi, Ghana, from 1993 to 2022. Here are some of the key factors that have impacted the development of the informal sector in Kumasi over this period:

**4.2.1. Economic conditions:** The informal sector has grown in response to economic conditions, particularly the lack of formal employment opportunities and the need for income generation.

**4.2.2. Government policies:** Government policies have had both positive and negative impacts on the informal sector in Kumasi. On the one hand, government efforts to support informal sector businesses through training, credit, and marketing assistance have helped to develop the sector. On the other hand, regulations, and taxes that make it difficult for informal businesses to operate and grow have had a negative impact.

**4.2.3. Access to markets:** Access to markets has been a major challenge for informal businesses in Kumasi, but over the past decades, there have been efforts to improve this through the development of marketplaces and other trading platforms.

**4.2.4. Support services:** There have also been efforts to provide support services to informal businesses in Kumasi, including training and capacity-building programs, access to finance, and legal and regulatory support.

**4.2.5. Challenges to informal sector development:** Despite these positive developments, there have also been challenges to the development of the informal sector in Kumasi, including limited access to finance, a lack of skilled manpower, limited access to modern technology, and a challenging business environment.

**4.3 Productivity In Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 – 2022**

Productivity is excellent in Kumasi and its environs. However, a lack of efficient and holistic assessment tools creates unnecessary apathy and unjustifiable assertion in the value chain (Jusufo, Nimoh, Darko-Koomson, & Kassoh, 2017)

Measuring productivity in Kumasi, Ghana, from 1993 to 2022 is challenging. This is because, many factors can impact productivity and it can be difficult to obtain accurate and comprehensive data (Abane, Adamtey, & Ayim, 2022). However, below are some of the key indicators that can provide insight into productivity trends in Kumasi over this period:

**4.3.1. Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** The GDP is one of the most commonly used indicators of a country's economic performance, including productivity. Over the past decades, the GDP of Ghana, including Kumasi, has grown, although there have been fluctuations due to economic and political factors.

**4.3.2. Labor force participation rate:** The labor force participation rate measures the proportion of the working-age population that is either employed or actively seeking employment. This can provide insight into the level of economic activity in Kumasi and the surrounding region, including productivity.

**4.3.3. Employment rate:** The employment rate measures the proportion of the working-age population that is employed. A high employment rate can indicate a productive and dynamic economy.

**4.3.4. Education levels:** Education levels are also an important factor in measuring productivity, as higher levels of education can lead to improved skills and a more productive workforce.

**4.3.5. Technology and innovation:** The adoption and integration of technology and innovation can also impact productivity. Over the past decades, there have been efforts to increase access to technology and innovation in Kumasi, which could have had a positive impact on productivity.

**4.4 Employment Opportunities in Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 – 2022**

Assessing the stability of employment opportunities in Kumasi, Ghana, from 1993 to 2022 is challenging. This is because employment stability is influenced by many factors, including economic conditions, government policies, and demographic trends (Adeniran, Ishaku, & Yusuf, 2020). However, here are some of the key indicators that can provide insight into employment stability in Kumasi over this period:

**4.4.1. Unemployment Rate:** The unemployment rate measures the proportion of the labor force that is not employed but actively seeking employment. High unemployment rates can indicate low stability in employment opportunities.

**4.4.2. Labor Force Participation Rate:** The labor force participation rate measures the proportion of the working-age population that is either employed or actively seeking employment. If the participation rate is high, it can indicate a stable job market.

**4.4.3. Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** The GDP is one of the most commonly used indicators of a country's economic performance, including employment stability. Over the past decades, the GDP of Ghana, including Kumasi, has grown, although there have been fluctuations due to economic and political factors.

**4.4.4. Job Creation:** Job creation measures the number of new jobs that are being created in the economy. A high rate of job creation can indicate stability in employment opportunities.

**4.4.5. Informal Sector:** The informal sector can also provide insight into employment stability, as it often employs large numbers of people in low-skilled and low-paying jobs. Over the past decades, the informal sector in Kumasi and surrounding regions has grown, which could suggest low stability in employment opportunities.

**4.5 Public-Private Partnerships**

The United Nations has been a very strong promoter of Public-Private Partnership programs for sustainable infrastructure development in the country. The achievements of the goals of the PPP partnerships are yet to be independently verified on a large scale in Kumasi, Ghana (Akomea-Frimpong, Xiaohua, Robert, & Kukah, 2021)

16. Encourage public-private sector partnership and stimulate productive employment opportunities

qualitative data 5: public-private partnerships

city and country levels

1. Have some major public enterprises involving the delivery of services in cities established partnerships with private firms during the last five years at the city level?  How many?

2. Have some major public enterprises involving the delivery of services in cities established partnerships with private firms during the last five years at the country level?  How many?

Have public-private partnership become a more common practice in the last five years?

Have they been effective? Have they offered a greater flexibility in the management and higher degree of transparency, efficiency and accountability in their operation?

Is the cost-recovery of services higher?

Public-private partnership have become a common practice in the last five years

They have been effective.

They have offered a greater flexibility in the management and higher degree of of transparency, efficiency and accountability in their operation.

On the long run, the cost recovery is to the benefit of the citizenry.

Figure 16. Public-Private Partnership in Kumasi

Public-private partnerships (PPPs) have become an increasingly important part of development in many countries, including Ghana. In Kumasi, the use of PPPs has been growing since 1993, with many initiatives aimed at improving public services and infrastructure, particularly in the areas of transportation, water and sanitation, and housing (National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), 2022). Here are some of the key developments related to PPPs in Kumasi from 1993 to 2022:

**4.5.1. Transportation:** Over the past few decades, several PPP projects have been implemented in Kumasi to improve the transportation system, including the construction of new roads and the expansion of public transit systems.

**4.5.2. Water and Sanitation:** PPPs have also been used to improve water and sanitation services in Kumasi, with several initiatives aimed at increasing access to clean water and improving the management of wastewater.

**4.5.3. Housing:** PPPs have been used to support the development of affordable housing in Kumasi, including the construction of new homes and the improvement of existing housing stock.

**4.5.4. Regulatory Framework:** To facilitate the growth of PPPs in Kumasi, the government has established a legal and regulatory framework that provides the necessary framework for private companies to engage in public services and infrastructure development.

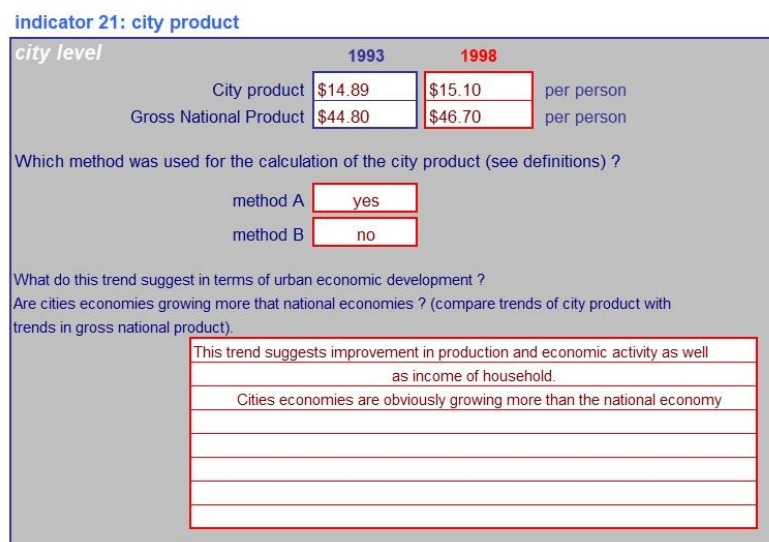


Figure 17. City Product

## 5: GOVERNANCE

### 5.1 Decentralization/Strengthening Of Local Authorities

From 2007 to date, Commonwealth Secretariat and its subsidiary arms have worked to empower Kumasi and Accra to develop regional programs on decentralization (Alam & Koranteng, 2011)

Decentralization refers to the transfer of power and decision-making authority from the central government to local authorities. In Kumasi, Ghana, the decentralization process began in the 1990s with the passage of the Local Government Act 462 in 1993. This act aimed to strengthen local authorities and increase their autonomy in managing the delivery of public services.

17. Promote decentralisation and strengthen local authorities

Qualitative data 6: level of decentralization

city and country levels

1. Can higher levels of government (national, state/provincial):

a. Close the local government ?  erase inappropriate

b. Remove councillors from office?  erase inappropriate

2. Can the local government, without permission from higher governments:

a. Set local tax levels ?    erase inappropriate

b. Set user charges for services ?    erase inappropriate

c. Borrow funds ?    erase inappropriate

d. Choose contractors for projects ?    erase inappropriate

3. Is the amount of fund transfers from higher governments known in advance of the local budget setting process ?

erase inappropriate

If yes, give a percentage:

Have major responsibilities, policy management, decision-making authorities and resources been decentralised at the local level ? if not, is there a process of decentralisation in place ?

Do you consider that decentralisation has improved the level of governance ?

Major responsibilities, policy management, decision-making authorities and resources have been decentralised at the local level.

With the democratic institution in place, decentralisation has improved the level of governance.

In measurable terms, this will definitely take some time to reflect on indicators such as this.

Figure 18. Decentralization in Kumasi, Ghana

Over the next few decades, the decentralization process in Kumasi continued with the establishment of various programs and initiatives aimed at empowering local authorities. Figure 18 shows that some of these initiatives included the creation of metropolitan, municipal, and district assemblies (MMDAs) as well as the introduction of participatory planning and budgeting processes.

5.2 Participation And Civic Engagement

There is a strong social bond with Ghanaians but a detached connection with the state institutions and those in the corridors of power. This paradoxical relationship is difficult to rationalize (Asante, 2020)

5.3 Transparency In Kumasi, Ghana From 1993 – 2022

Narratives around the transparency of public officials about the public fund are at an all-time low. The recent COVID-19 pandemic helped to show the extent to which public officials could descend to mismanaging public resources (Arkorful, Abdul-Rahman, Ibrahim, & Arkorful, 2022)

19. Ensure transparent, accountable and efficient governance of towns, cities and metropolitan areas

Qualitative data 8: transparency and accountability

city level

At the loval government level, are there:

	1996	2000
a) regular independent auditing of municipal accounts ?	yes	yes
b) published contracts and tenders for municipal services ?	yes	yes
c) sanctions against faults of civil servants ?	yes	yes
d) laws on disclosure of potential conflicts of interest ?	yes	yes

Has there been any progress in improving governance ?

What measures have been undertaken in this area ?

There has been progress in improving governance; Progress includes proper conduct and monitoring of elections, preparing voters identity cards with pictures

Greater transparency in governance, greater involvement and participation of the private sector in the economic and social affairs of the country

Figure 19. Transparency in Kumasi, Ghana: 1996-2000

The level of transparency can be influenced by a variety of factors, including government policies, cultural norms, and the strength of civil society and media, among others. It is also a dynamic and evolving concept, so it may have changed over time. As indicated in Figure 19, it is apparent that conducting further research might be necessary to get a more comprehensive understanding of the level of transparency in Kumasi, Ghana from 1993 to 2022.

5.4 ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE ACTIVITIES OF KUMASI, GHANA FROM 1993 – 2022

Poor institutional quality and leadership accountability have descended to an all-time low from 2000 to 2022. This precarious institutional decay has destroyed any form of confidence within and outside Ghana. It is an unfortunate national dilemma (Brenya Bonsu, Appiah, Gyimah, & Owusu-Afriyie, 2022)



The level of accountability in the activities of Kumasi over the period 1993-2022 has been a combination of both progress and ongoing challenges and would likely require further research and analysis to provide a more nuanced and detailed picture.

**5.5 Efficiency In Kumasi, Ghana**

While contending that most of the population of the Kumasi and the rest of the developing countries are domiciled in slums, Abunyewah, et.al argues that the phenomenon of slums is global rather than regional (Abunyewah, Ackuayi, & Nana, 2014). They insist that rather than evicting slums as a way of eliminating them, they should be upgraded and empowered.

**6: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**6.1 International Cooperation In Kumasi**

In a metaphor of electricity trading with International Organizations, an online publication at the University of Manchester showed how International Cooperation in Ghana demonstrated how intense competition towards a short-term focus on elections (Dye & Bawakyillenuo, 2022). This is alongside high modernist ideological beliefs in the power of megawatts to produce industrialization – as shown in Figure 20. This created Ghana’s crises of absence and abundance

As shown in Figure 20, international cooperation in Kumasi, Ghana from 1993 to 2020 took various forms and involved different actors, such as government agencies, international organizations, NGOs, and local community groups. Some examples of international cooperation initiatives in Kumasi during this period might include aid programs aimed at poverty reduction and economic development, educational and training programs, health interventions, infrastructure projects, and environmental protection efforts. The specific nature and scope of these initiatives would have depended on the needs and priorities of the Kumasi community and the broader goals of the cooperating organizations and governments.



Figure 20. International Cooperation in Kumasi, Ghana: 1996-2000

**7. CONCLUSION**

As the second most important city in Ghana, Kumasi is a fairly successful city. However, a lot still needs to be done to place the city in a rightful position. The indicators show that Kumasi is still basking in the shadows of the capital city, Accra. Narratives around the transparency of public officials about the use of public funds are at an all-time low.

The level of accountability in the activities of Kumasi over the period 1993-2022 has been a combination of both progress and ongoing challenges, and would likely require further research and analysis to provide a more nuanced and detailed picture.

For example, the decentralization process in Kumasi has been ongoing since 1993 and has led to the strengthening of local authorities and the improvement of the delivery of public services. Despite the challenges, local authorities continue to play a vital role in the development of the city and the surrounding areas.

In general, the geographical balance in Kumasi, Ghana has been shaped by a combination of social, economic, and environmental factors. This has been influenced by the concentration of resources and opportunities in certain areas of the city. Addressing the essence of achieving a more geographically balanced

distribution of resources and opportunities will be important for ensuring sustainable and equitable development in Kumasi and other urban areas in Ghana.

The administrative mechanism in Kumasi is still very weak and there is no clear accountability and sense of order in the city. In general, there is a need for an overhaul of the administrative institution to bring some order and minimize reckless spending and corrupt practices. The levels of growth and indicators for development from 1993 to 1998 were extremely modest.

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

In the course of preparing this paper, the Author would like to acknowledge the editorial support of Professor Pearl Akunaya OPOKO, Ph.D., FNIA, Dean, College of Environmental Sciences, Bells University of Technology, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria. She was instrumental in correcting some fundamental issues. The Author would like to express immense gratitude to Professor Pearl OPOKO for her support.

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