

TABLE 1. Percentage distribution of Ghanaian youth by social group, according to selected characteristics

Characteristic	All (N=704)	Social group		
		In school (N=297)	Apprenticed (N=267)	Unaffiliated (N=140)
Sex				
Male	51.3	50.5	51.7	52.1
Female	48.7	49.5	48.3	47.9
Age				
12–14	11.8	21.5*	2.2*	9.3*
15–17	26.8	43.5*	7.5*	28.6*
18–20	37.7	28.3*	46.9*	40.0*
21–24	23.7	6.7*	43.4*	22.1*
Education				
None	7.2	0.0*	7.9*	20.6*
Primary	9.8	0.7*	9.4*	29.4*
Middle	51.0	48.0*	57.9*	43.4*
Secondary	28.6	50.9*	17.3*	5.1*
Vocational	3.4	0.4*	7.5*	1.5*
Living situation				
Both parents	40.1	58.3*	32.5*	16.4*
One parent	21.5	19.5	24.5	20.0
Other relative	27.5	18.5*	31.7*	38.6*
Friend/on own	5.6	1.7*	4.9*	15.0*
Other	5.3	2.0*	6.4*	10.0*
Religion				
Christian	65.6	66.2*	70.4*	55.1*
Muslim	29.7	32.1	25.8	32.1
Other	4.7	1.7*	3.8*	12.8*
Town				
Sunyani	33.5	33.7	34.5	31.4
Takoradi	34.3	33.7	34.5	35.0
Tamale	32.2	32.6	31.0	33.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

*Differences across social groups are significant at $p < .05$.

TABLE 3. Odds ratios (and 95% confidence intervals) from regression analysis assessing the likelihood for Ghanaian youth of having ever had sex, having had sex in the previous 30 days, having had multiple partners in the previous 30 days and agreeing that one can get sexual satisfaction without having penetrative sex, by selected characteristics

	Ever had sex (N=699)	Had sex in the previous 30 days (N=675)	Had more than one partner in the previous 30 days† (N=201)	Agrees penetrative sex not needed for sexual satisfaction (N=610)
Age				
12–14	1.53 (1.40–1.68)**	1.28 (1.18–1.39)**	1.10 (0.91–1.32)	1.10 (1.01–1.19)*
Sex				
Male (ref)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Female	1.64 (1.11–2.41)*	1.96 (1.32–2.91)**	0.13 (0.05–0.34)**	1.21 (0.84–1.75)
Social group				
In school (ref)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Apprenticed	3.19 (2.00–5.07)**	2.68 (1.63–4.40)**	0.94 (0.32–2.80)	0.70 (0.43–1.14)
Unaffiliated	2.49 (1.49–4.13)**	1.68 (0.97–2.93)	1.03 (0.27–4.02)	0.72 (0.43–1.21)
Town				
Takoradi (ref)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Sunyani	2.51 (1.58–3.98)**	2.48 (1.54–3.97)**	0.67 (0.23–1.98)	1.75 (1.13–2.69)*
Tamale	1.01 (0.43–1.87)	2.32 (1.26–4.26)**	0.99 (0.30–3.30)	0.73 (0.41–1.32)
Living situation				
Parent/relative (ref)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Friend/on own	1.27 (0.38–4.26)	1.19 (0.66–2.13)	1.94 (0.68–5.57)	0.99 (0.56–1.78)
Religion				
Christian (ref)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Muslim	0.84 (0.45–1.52)	1.12 (0.63–1.97)	0.88 (0.32–2.45)	0.86 (0.49–1.50)
Other	1.67 (0.68–4.10)	2.27 (0.94–5.52)	2.80 (0.58–13.4)	0.74 (0.32–1.69)
Had sex				
No (ref)	na	na	na	1.00
Yes	na	na	na	3.33 (2.17–5.11)**

* $p < .05$. ** $p < .01$. †Among those who had had sex in the previous month. Notes: ref=reference group. na=not applicable.

TABLE 2. Percentage of Ghanaian youth, by sexual experience, according to social group

	All	Social group		
		In school	Apprenticed	Unaffiliated
EVER HAD SEX				
All	52.1	37.5*	64.5*	59.1*
Males	48.2†	37.9*	59.5*	51.2*,†
Females	56.2†	37.6*	69.3*	67.8*,†
HAD SEX IN LAST 30 DAYS				
All	29.6	21.2*	39.2*	29.7*
Males	24.2†	19.8*	32.9*	19.6*,†
Females	35.2†	23.6	44.6	40.7†

*Differences across social groups are significant at $p < .05$. †Differences between genders are significant at $p < .05$. Note: All percentages adjusted for age.