

Global Info Analytics New Opinion Poll Reveals

GHANA HEADING IN WRONG DIRECTION



President Nana Akufo-Addo

A new opinion poll conducted by Global InfoAnalytics reveals majority of Ghanaians believe the country under the leadership of President Nana Akufo-Addo is heading in the wrong direction. The Global InfoAnalytics poll which was conducted between December 31 and January 15 and titled "National Opinion Poll Governance & Elections January 18th, 2023" showed that on the question of direction of the country, only 18 percent of the respondents said it is headed in the right

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GFL Calls For A Resolute Labour Front In Ghana



Abraham Koomson, GFL General Secretary

The Ghana Federation of Labour (GFL) has called on the various labour unions to remain resolute and work together to defend employees' interests. They should also create an enabling condition for workers to enjoy the

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CHRAJ Dismisses Conflict Of Interest Case Against Deputy Gender Minister

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Francisca Oteng Mensah, Deputy Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection

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The INSIGHT

— EDITORIAL

DEAL WITH THIS HEALTH MENACE

The revelation that there is upsurge in stroke cases among young people per records at the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital in Kumasi is very deeply worrying.

There is clearly no doubt that non-communicable or lifestyle diseases appear to have fast taken over from communicable which used to be our bane as a country. According to the Neurologist, Dr. Fred Stephen Sarfo those as young as 13 are now developing the condition which one suffers when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts resulting in lack of blood to the brain and thus death of the brain cells.

According to the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital it records between 800 and one thousand cases, each year with more than 300 dying and the rest becoming permanently disabled.

With its high risk factors being hypertension, diabetes, high alcohol intake and lack of exercise among others, there is the need for improved or change in lifestyle including other health measures to adequately deal with the situation. Stress is also another causative or factor and health authorities need to intensify public education to reverse the tide. The revelation that there is upsurge in stroke cases among young people per records at the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital in Kumasi is very deeply worrying.

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from front page

direction compared to 71% who believed it is headed in the wrong direction. The poll also revealed that the majority of Ghanaians believe corruption was on the ascendancy even though the President's approval rating appears to have improved slightly from the last poll conducted.

On the race to lead the NPP the poll showed it is a dead heat among NPP voters as Dr Mahamudu Bawumia (DMB) loses his slender lead he enjoyed in October 2022 over Alan Kwadwo Kyeremanten (AKK). The poll now shows DMB and AKK levelled at 40% apiece among NPP voters. However, among general voters, AKK's lead over DMB has been cut 41% to 32% compared to 44% to 31% in October 2022. Kennedy Ohene Agyapong (KOA) is in third place with 14% of the votes.

In the race to lead the NDC, the poll shows John Dramani Mahama (JDM) extending his lead over Dr Kwabena Dufuor (DKD) as he now backed 77% of voters compared to 13% for DKD.

However, among NDC voters JDM attracts 94% and DKD 4%.

In the 2024 general election head-to-head between DMB and JDM, the poll shows a tightening race as DMB cuts JDM lead from 62% in October 2022 to 58% in January 2023. JDM now leads 58% to 36%, a 3% point improvement for DMB compared to the previous poll. In the race between JDM and AKK, JDM now leads AKK 57% to 39%. JDM lead AKK 60% to

36% in the October 2022 poll, representing a slide of 3% point for JDM in the latest poll.

The poll methodology and approach involved 5,844 respondents who were drawn from all the 16 regions of the country based on total number of voters in each of the regions as per the EC 2020 register with a confidence level of 99% and MoE of 1.74%.

A random selection of 30% of constituencies from each region was then selected and allocated the regional quota based on total voters in each of



President Nana Akufo-Addo

those constituencies.

The Respondents were selected randomly in the streets, homes and workplaces.

Party affiliation is defined as the party the voter usually votes for, or in the case of firsttime voters, the party they intend to vote for. Floating voters are voters who vote different political parties over several election cycles or does not align him/herself to any of the registered political parties. Field interviews were conducted between 31st December and 15th January 2023. The results of the primaries and general elections head-to-head are based on "likely voters" model which exclude responses of voters who have indicated they will not in the primaries and presidential elections.

This is a brief aspect of the poll;

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THE INSIGHT

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GFL Calls For A Resolute Labour Front In Ghana

from front page

fruits of their labour.

Mr Abraham Koomson, GFL General Secretary, speaking at the Ghana News Agency Tema Industrial News Hub Boardroom Dialogue said employees must not suffer from the misdeeds of the employer. He reminded labour unions that the Labour Act 2003 fortified workers against any acts of omission or commissions that may be at the detriment of the worker, “the act forbids any action or policy that would make the employee worse off, let us hold on to the laws and defend our workers' interest at all times.”

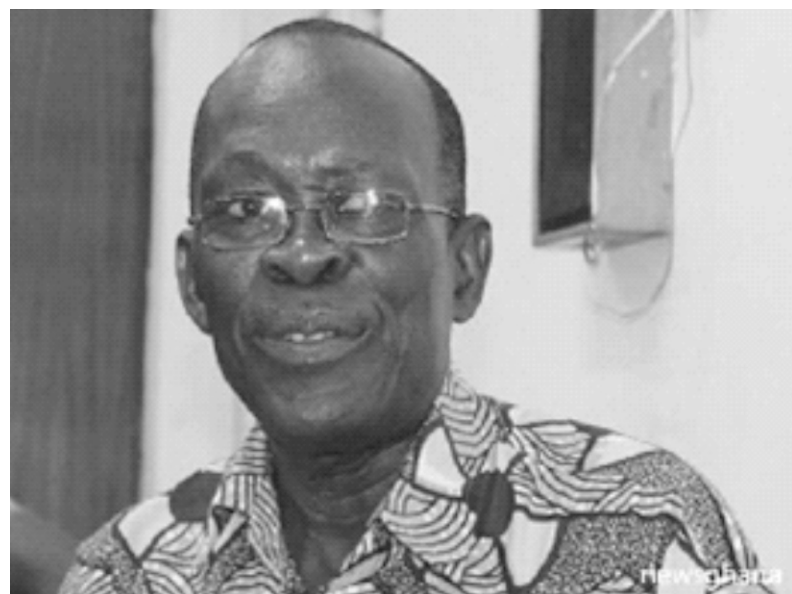
Mr Koomson reiterated the

call for the government to reduce its expenditure drastically to set the tone of reviving the current economic recession in the country.

Mr Koomson also said the government's lifestyle must reflect the current state of the economy hence the need to reduce expenditure and collectively find amicable solutions for the current situation.

He said the government debt exchange programme would push people in the middle and lower class into absolute poverty which would have a huge impact on the development of the country. Mr Koomson said the programme would also

render most of the banks vulnerable which would in the long term affect the living standard of the citizenry. “Some banks and financial institutions including insurance companies would collapse in the next five years, as confidence in the financial sector continues to wane. “Most people are yet to overcome the impact of the banking sector clean-up, and now we are encountering a major financial earthquake, let us be careful not to totally destroy the financial base of the country,” he said. Mr Koomson expressed concern that the relationship between the government and organized labour has become a fragile one with no trust, “2023 is going to be a year of



Abraham Koomson, GFL General Secretary

intensified agitations to save the country.”

The GFL General Secretary also advised the military against any adventurous intervention which would destabilise.

He said organized labour would use internationally recognised labour procedures to get redress and redeem the economy.

Source: -- GNA

CHRAJ Dismisses Conflict Of Interest Case Against Deputy Gender Minister



Francisca Oteng Mensah, Deputy Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection

The Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) has dismissed allegations of conflict of interest against the Deputy Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Francisca Oteng Mensah, over the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE) for the National Youth Authority (NYA).

This comes after a resident of Nima in Accra by the name, Ismail Mohammed, petitioned CHRAJ to look into the Minister-designate's violation of Article 284 of the 1992 Constitution and Section 7 of the NYA Act in

approving COVID-19 campaign.

[Francisca Oteng-Mensah](#) who is the board chairman of the National Youth Authority is said to have used her influence as director and shareholder of Adonko Bitters Limited to approve procurement of sanitizers, amounting to GH¢700,000 for the said company which reportedly belongs to her father. Ms Oteng-Mensah is alleged to have supervised the board to pay ₵700,000 to Adonko Company Ltd – which is also a subsidiary of the Angel Group of Companies.

CHRAJ FINDINGS

According to a Graphic.com.gh report, CHRAJ has dismissed the allegations on grounds that they lacked merit, as investigations conducted by

the commission and evidence provided did not support the case of conflict of interest against Ms Mensah.

In the 111-page report released on February 2 and signed by the Commissioner, Joseph Whittal, the commission indicated that evidence showed that on March 31, 2020, at a board meeting chaired by Ms Mensah, the board of the NYA had approved GH¢3 million to fund the 'Youth in COVID-19 Campaign' and related activities.

The NYA, it said, used part of the GH¢3 million to procure PPEs for the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and that the PPE consisted of alcohol-based hand sanitisers amounting to GH¢68,980.58 from Adonko Bitters Ltd; a company Ms Mensah and her father were directors and shareholders of. However, there was no evidence that Ms Mensah gave directives for the procurement of hand

sanitiser from Adonko Bitters, and “that the allegation that the board chairperson was not only present at the March 31 board meeting but also participated, deliberated and presided over the purchase of hand sanitisers from Adonko Bitters Limited and failed to disclose her interest in the matter is not supported by the evidence”. “That the respondent was not under a duty to disclose her private capacity interest in Adonko Bitters Ltd at any of the March and June 2020 board meetings,” the commission added.

The report further established that there were discrepancies in the processes of the procurement of the PPE by the management of the NYA, which made it informally fall on Ms Mensah to intervene and have Adonko Bitters Ltd supply 290 boxes when it had difficulty in obtaining supply for alcohol-based hand sanitisers.

It said the action of the Deputy

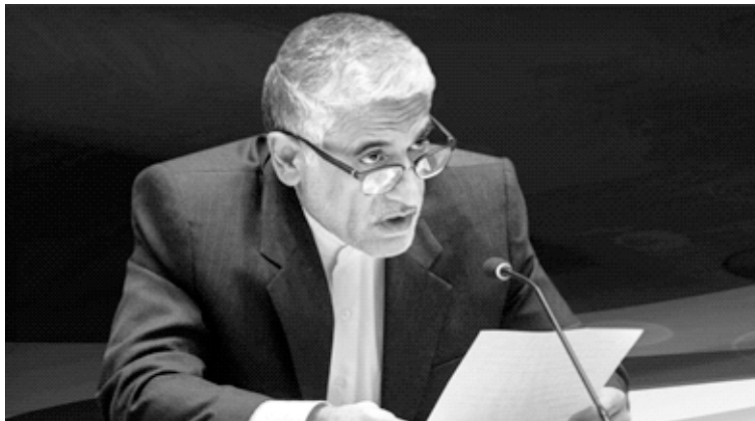
Gender Minister to have Adonko Bitters Ltd supply hand sanitisers to the NYA did not amount to conflict of interest, and that at the time of concluding the investigations on this case, Adonko Bitters Ltd had not picked its cheque for GH¢68,980.58 from the NYA in respect of supplies of hand sanitiser made to the NYA. “On the totality of the evidence, the respondent did not put herself in a position where her personal interest conflicted or was likely to conflict with the performance of her official duties as Chairperson of the NYA Board of Directors,” CHRAJ said. The commission, however, commended the complainant for showing public spiritedness in lodging the complaint and the deputy minister for her cooperation.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS REPORT

Compiled By Peoples Dispatch

Iran Blames Israel For Last Week's Attack On Isfahan Military Site



Iran's ambassador to the UN, Amir Saied Iravani. (Photo: Press TV). Iran asserted its right to defend itself after the failed drone strikes at the military workshop complex in Isfahan late on Saturday night

Iran's Ambassador to the UN, Amir Saied Iravani, in a letter to the UN Secretary General and the president of the Security Council has claimed that a preliminary investigation had proved that Israel was responsible for the "attempted act of aggression in Isfahan."

On Sunday, the Iranian

Ministry of Defense [announced](#) that one of its workshop complexes had been attacked late on Saturday night by three Micro Aerial Vehicles (MAVs), or mini drones. It also claimed that its air defense system had been able to thwart the attack.

The ministry added that the attack did not cause any human or material damages and that the workshop was functioning as usual.

On Wednesday, one of Iran's official news agencies, [Nour News](#), claimed that the drones were launched by "terrorist" elements within the country who were working on the orders of Israeli intelligence agency Mossad. It also alleged that the drone parts had been smuggled into the country through the Iraqi Kurdistan region.

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) has been [carrying out attacks](#) inside Iraqi Kurdistan for some months now, purportedly to destroy "terrorist bases" in the region. Iran claims that the region is being used by

anti-Iranian forces to provide training, weapons, and other support to forces causing trouble within the country. It also claims that Mossad is active in the region.

Iravani cited recent public utterances of Israeli President Isaac Herzog and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in which they supported attacks on Iranian nuclear and other military sites. He also noted that Israel has been involved in "sabotage and terrorist attacks" inside Iran in the past.

Iravani urged the UN Security Council to act against Israeli warmongering and make it comply with international law. "The Islamic Republic of Iran reserves its legitimate and inherent right, in accordance with international law and the

United Nations Charter, to defend its national security and respond resolutely to any threats or wrongful actions by the Israeli regime, wherever and whenever deemed necessary," the [letter reads](#). Though Israel has officially neither confirmed nor denied its involvement in the Isfahan attacks, major US newspapers such as the [New York Times](#) and [Wall Street Journal](#) have cited senior intelligence officials to [report](#) on Sunday that it was very much behind them.

Iran has in the past accused Israel of various attacks on its nuclear sites, such as in Natanz in July 2020, and for the assassination of its nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh in November 2020.

Tunisian Elections Are The Third Phase Of President Kais Saied's Coup Project: Ali Jallouli

The extremely low turnout in the second round of the Tunisia's parliamentary elections has yet again raised questions about the political project of President Kais Saied who since July 2021 has sought to reshape the country's institutions unilaterally. The run-off elections on Sunday January 29 saw a turnout of only [11.4% of the 7.8 million voters](#), according to the country's Independent Higher Authority for the Elections (ISIE). The runoffs were to decide the winners of 131 of the 161 seats in the Tunisian parliament. The first round of elections on December 17 witnessed a turnout of only 11.2% of voters, and only [23 candidates](#) registered victories. The elections were boycotted by all major political parties. Speaking to *Peoples Dispatch*, Ali Jallouli, Member of the Executive Committee of the left-wing Workers' Party of Tunisia said that

these elections were a sign of the collapse of democracy and a step backwards as most political parties did not take part. He noted that only Kais Saied's base and associates, as well as elements of the mafia, took part in the elections which he termed were conducted on the basis of traditional relations which the Tunisian people have struggled against.

The elections were the first held under a new constitution which came into effect in July last year following a referendum where once again the turnout had been low (around 30%). An online public consultation prior to the referendum had also seen little participation. Ali Jallouli referred to the parliamentary elections as the third stage of Kais Saied's coup project after the consultation and the referendum. "The election was held under a constitution which gives no real power to parliament. The parliament has no control over the executive. It

is just a forum to protect Saied's supporters and friends," Jallouli said. The parliamentary elections eliminated the role of political parties with candidates contesting as individuals as opposed to being representatives of their parties. The constituencies have also been made smaller so as to enable this project of the president, he added. Several observers [noted](#) serious violations of election rules in different parts of the country during the runoffs. In some places, people claimed they were prevented from entering the polling booths, while in some areas, campaigns were still being conducted at the time of voting. Local election observer Mourakiboun accused the ISIE of violating "the basic tenets of elections through the whole process, mainly transparency, independence, and equality between candidates," [TAP reported](#).

Chronology of a coup

The elections in Tunisia took place as the country is in the throes of a deep political and economic crisis. In July 2021, Kais Saied cited similar political and economic instability as the reason to dismiss the elected government and dissolve parliament. The Workers' Party was among the first organizations in Tunisia to take a strong stand against Kais Saied's actions. Ali Jallouli noted that the president's actions were a coup was against the democratic constitution of Tunisia and achievements of people, especially in the field of democracy and liberty and freedom. The previous constitution had been drafted after the Tunisian Revolution of 2010-11 which overthrew long-time dictator Zine El Abidine Ben Ali. Almost two years after Kais Saied's overthrow of the elected government, the instability has

worsened. Inflation has risen to double digits and unemployment is at over 18%. The government is in talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a USD 2 billion loan as a bailout package which might bring more austerity policies. Ali Jallouli added that the country is on the verge of bankruptcy and normalization with Zionist forces and subordination to the US agenda has intensified. "In the midst of this, Kais Saied continues to deliver regressive speeches which aim to divide the people," he said. However, there has been increasing resistance to the actions of the president. Ali Jallouli cited the massive protests on January 14 against the elections as an example. "A number of factors indicate that in the future, there will be a return to the revolutionary process. Tunisia has no option but make its revolution succeed," he concluded.

President Akufo-Addo Commends Kennedy Agyapong Over Construction Of Cardiothoracic Centre At 37 Military Hospital



By Florence Anim

Kennedy Ohene Agyapong

President Nana Addo Dankwah Akufo-Addo has commended the Member of Parliament (MP) for Assin Central, Kennedy Ohene Agyapong for his commitment to supporting Ghana's health delivery system. The President praised the MP for taking a bold initiative to personally finance the construction of the Cardiothoracic Centre at the 37 Military Hospital in Accra at a cost of US\$6 million.

President Akufo-Addo praised Mr. Agyapong while

on a tour of the facility on Wednesday, February 2, 2023. The project, which is currently 40 percent (%) completed is an 80-bed capacity facility, designed with the hope of complementing the National Cardiothoracic Centre at the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital (KBTH). After the President's tour, the MP said in a media engagement that although the project was scheduled to be completed by 2022, it stalled, due to some challenges beyond his control. "I was initially told that the estimated cost of the project

was US\$3 million but it later jumped up to US\$4 million. Then to US\$6 million because just the MIR machine is valued at US\$1 million. This, notwithstanding, the cost of furnishing with all the accouterments, which would be running into millions," he said.

Meanwhile, the hospital project coincided with other important projects like the construction of a cold store, which has the capacity to employ over 1000 individuals to reduce the unemployment rate in the country. The MP admitted that the concurrent development of these projects had left the 37 Military Hospital Cardiothoracic Centre to suffer stunt progress of work. Nonetheless, the MP said he was happy with the work done so far and ready to commit more resources this time around for the completion of the project by the end of 2023. According to him, this commitment is

fuelled by a proposal to him that the 37 Military Hospital, in recent times, is recording an increasing number of cardio cases and often had to refer them to the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital because of a lack of facilities to treat such health issues.

Mr. Agyapong said since the edifice would be one of the largest in the country, also proposed that a portion of it should be dedicated to the treatment of kidney diseases, which is on the rise, saying "all-in-all, we will have a cardio center as well as a dialysis center in the same building. I like good things. I'm not going to bring in any old machines but brand-new machines. I will plead with the staff to take good care of them.

"Recently, I went to the Okomfo Anokye Hospital and it was sad. I didn't like what I saw there. As far back as 1955 when Okomfo Anokye Hospital was built, it has not seen any major renovation. I wonder how the health workers operate because the place is

very nasty." He used the opportunity to appeal to Ghanaians, particularly Ashantis living in Accra, and have the means to pull their resources together to renovate most of the wards in Okomfo Anokye Teaching Hospital.

As part of his widow's mite, the Assin Central MP has donated about 100 beds to the Ashanti regional hospital and it was during that period he decided to take a tour of the facility. "It was very sad. Our medical service is nothing to write home about, especially the Okomfo Anokye Hospital, which is referred to as a teaching hospital. I wonder how they can call such a hospital a teaching hospital. What we saw is pathetic." A contractor working on the project, Ing. Captain Osei Boakye (rtd) said he was impressed by the commitment being made by the legislature. He was hopeful that if all things were equal, the project would be completed in nine months and would have facilities such as the MIR unit, CT scan unit, X-ray unit, dialysis unit, tool operation theatre, and CT laboratory.

Ghana's Balance Of Payments Deficit Worsens To \$3.64 Billion



Ken Ofori-Atta, Minister of Finance

Ghana's balance of payments have further deteriorated to a deficit of \$3.64 billion in December from a \$3.4 billion deficit the previous quarter, central bank data showed on Saturday. The West African nation is facing an economic crisis that saw [consumer inflation](#) rise to 54.1% last month. The cedi currency has depreciated around 50% annually, and

interest payments on government debt have swelled to between 70% and 100% of GDP.

Recent balance of payments woes have been largely driven by a sharp reversal in capital flows, with Ghana's capital account deficit having worsened to \$2.18 billion in December from \$1.64 billion in September. At the same time last year, Ghana had a capital account surplus of more than \$3.3 billion.

Ghana secured a \$3 billion staff level bailout from the International Monetary Fund late last year, but must restructure its debts in order to obtain executive board approval.

Source -- Reuters

Akwatia NPP Constituency Poll

Nana Yaw Addo Baah Urges Delegates To Vote For Him Wrestle Seat For NPP

The governing New Patriotic Party (NPP) in the Akwatia Constituency of the Eastern Region has vetted all the aspiring candidates who are contesting the various executive positions within the party ahead of the 2024 general elections. However, one of the aspiring chairmen of the NPP in the Akwatia Constituency, Fred Nana Yaw Addo Baah has passed through the vetting process successfully. Speaking in an interview with some journalists after the vetting, Nana Yaw Baah called on all the delegates and members of the NPP in the constituency to vote massively for him to wrestle the parliamentary seat from the National Democratic Congress (NDC) MP, Henry Yiadom Boakye in the 2024 election.

Mr Baah indicated that going through the vetting process marked his readiness to "serve the party"

and help the NPP "to break the eight."

According to him, the NPP in the constituency needs "a transformational leader like him to solve the "myriad of problems" confronting the party at the constituency levels, reiterating his call on the delegates to vote for him to win the chairmanship race. He pointed out that when given the nod he would design effective policy to ensure that the party resources its grassroots to help build a strong base to be able to retain power in the 2024 general election. "We have to resource the party at the grassroots. We have to let the party people feel that the party cares about their welfare, and when given the nod I am going to lead these crusade,"



Mr Baah noted. According to him, there is absolutely no reason why the NDC should win elections in Akwatia if not for mishandling of the party. Akwatia NPP has to be like all our neighbours where the NPP has always won for both presidential and parliamentary elections. He also called for calm and peaceful election this coming Saturday.

Lotto Writers And Agents Advised To Partake In CLAAG's Mass Registration Exercise



Concerned Lotto Agents Association of Ghana (CLAAG) has urged Lotto writers and Agents in the country to take advantage of the ongoing mass registration exercise for writers and agents. A statement issued by Kwaku Duah Tawiah, Executive Secretary of CLAAG said the registration exercise is to enable lotto agents and writers consider issues of mutual interest and welfare for discussion with the government and stakeholders irrespective of the lotto operator they belong to.

This is his full statement;

PRESS STATEMENT BY CONCERNED LOTTO AGENTS ASSOCIATION OF GHANA (CLAAG) ON REGISTRATION OF LOTTO AGENTS AND WRITERS

The Lotto Industry in Ghana is evolving at a very fast rate with many changes taking place at the same time. Industry players have no choice but to quickly adapt to these changes if they intend to remain in business and take advantage of these changes.

Interestingly, downstream Lotto workers known generally as Lotto Agents and Writers have been driving some of these changes thereby bringing positive dynamism into the industry while helping the general public to make good staking decisions through forecasting. Lotto has therefore gradually become the main source of income to these Writers and Agents. Though their activities have brought smiles to many faces across the country, most of these Agents and Writers themselves work under very difficult conditions without enjoying any social protection.

The above situation has resulted in leadership of CLAAG which is a National Association made up of all Lotto Agents and Writers engaging a number of stakeholders in the Industry with the view of putting meaningful measures in place in order to help its members adapt to these changes as well as securing their welfare needs by providing them with basic social protection. This can only be achieved if CLAAG has a comprehensive data on all Lotto Writers and Agents throughout the country.

Leadership of CLAAG has therefore resolved with the help of other stakeholders who have the welfare of Lotto Agents and Writers at heart to embark on a nationwide mass registration of all Lotto Agents and Writers regardless of which ever company (Lotto Operator) they are working with. This exercise will take place between February and March this year. All those who have registered in the past and those who have never registered before must endeavour to take advantage of this opportunity to register themselves and be part of this important exercise.

All Lotto Agents and Writers would be required to register through their respective mobile/cellular phones at their own convenience and comfort wherever they are located in the country by dialing USSD code *713*225#, follow the prompts and finally submit after providing all information as required. They would be promptly provided with their respective CLAAG membership numbers. The process is not

only easy but user friendly and convenient hence every Lotto Agents and Writers are expected to register by the end of March 2023. Alternatively, Membership Registration Forms would be made available through Lotto Agents to be filled out.

The same USSD code together with their respective membership numbers would be used for payment of their membership dues. This platform will also help leadership to reach out to all members with important industry information simultaneously in real time.

All Lotto Agents and Writers are to note that their participation in this very important exercise will ensure that:

- We can collectively influence decisions made on our behalf by State and other Authorities
- We can collectively defend the means of our livelihood
- We can meaningfully contribute our quota towards national development in a structured and recognized manner which would be duly appreciated
- We can collectively pull resources together to meet some of our welfare needs

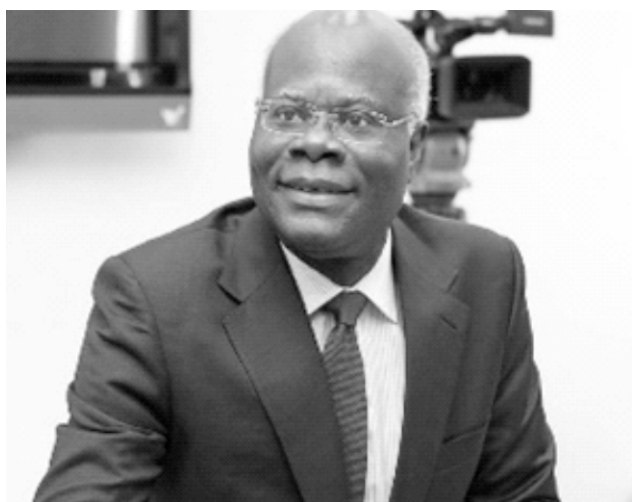
Leadership would like to remind all and sundry that our strength always lie in our unity for together we succeed but divided we shall surely sink.

Kwaku Duah Tawiah

Executive Secretary

054 959 8876

K. T. Hammond Is New Trade Minister, Bryan Acheampong Heads To Agric Ministry



K T Hammond heads to Ministry of Trade and Industry

The President of Ghana, Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, has made new ministerial appointments. Kobina Tahiru Hammond has been appointed Minister of Trade and

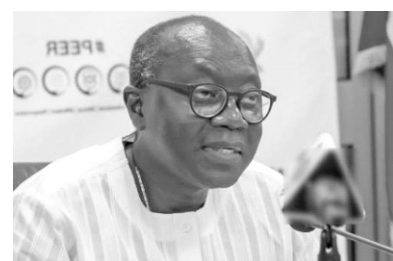
Industry, while Bryan Acheampong will now head the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. Other appointments are Stephen Asamoah Boateng, for Ministry of Chieftaincy; Mohammed Amin Adam, Minister of State at the

Ministry of Finance; Osei Bonsu Amoah as Minister of State for Local Government. Stephen Amoah, the Member of Parliament for Nhyiaeso, is to serve as a Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry. These new appointments by the president, which were announced by the Speaker of Parliament, [Alban Bagbin](#), have come about following the recent resignations of Alan Kyerematen as Minister of Trade; Afriyie Owusu Akoto as Minister of Food and Agriculture; and Ebenezer Kojo Kum as Minister of Chieftaincy.

We Need IMF Bailout In March Or Economy Will Crash – Ofori-Atta To Pensioners

Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta has stated that failure to secure a bailout with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by mid-March may ground Ghana's economy to a halt. Addressing Pensioner bondholders who have resisted their inclusion in a domestic debt exchange programme on Monday, February 6, the Finance Minister pleaded with the pensioners to accept a 3.5% cut and accept the new terms of 15% coupon rate and 5% maturity.

"We really feel that government has listened, there is humanity to us, we are protecting the destitute, widows and the orphans and the older people who have worked for this nation. We are in a crisis, we cannot put our heads under the sun and pretend that we are not. "We need to be mindful that we really need to be successful in going to the fund by this March to avoid what we all experienced last year which we all don't want to experience again."



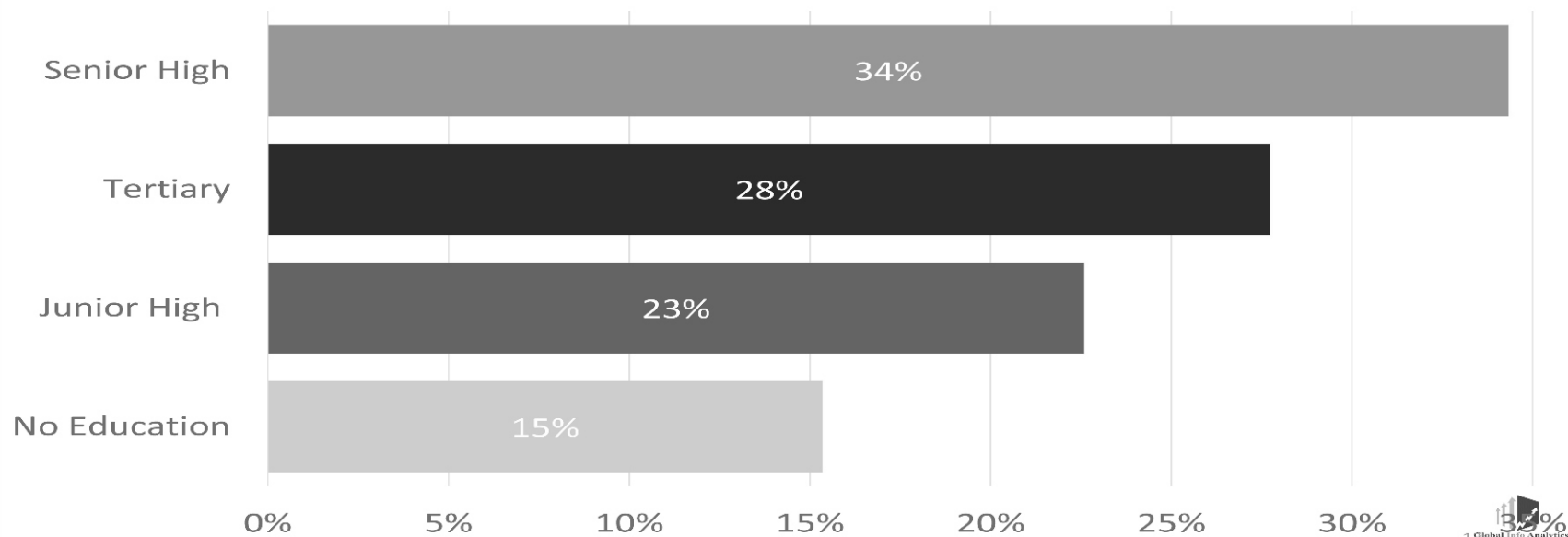
Pensioners who bought government bonds on Monday, February 6, 2023, picketed at the Finance Ministry to press home their demands for an exemption of their bonds from the government's domestic debt exchange programme.

The pensioners who are part of the Pensioner Bondholders Forum, want the government to completely exempt them from the debt exchange. They believe the inclusion of their bonds will negatively impact their livelihoods. The closure of the invitation for holders of the government's bond to subscribe to the programme expires tomorrow, Tuesday, February 7, 2023.

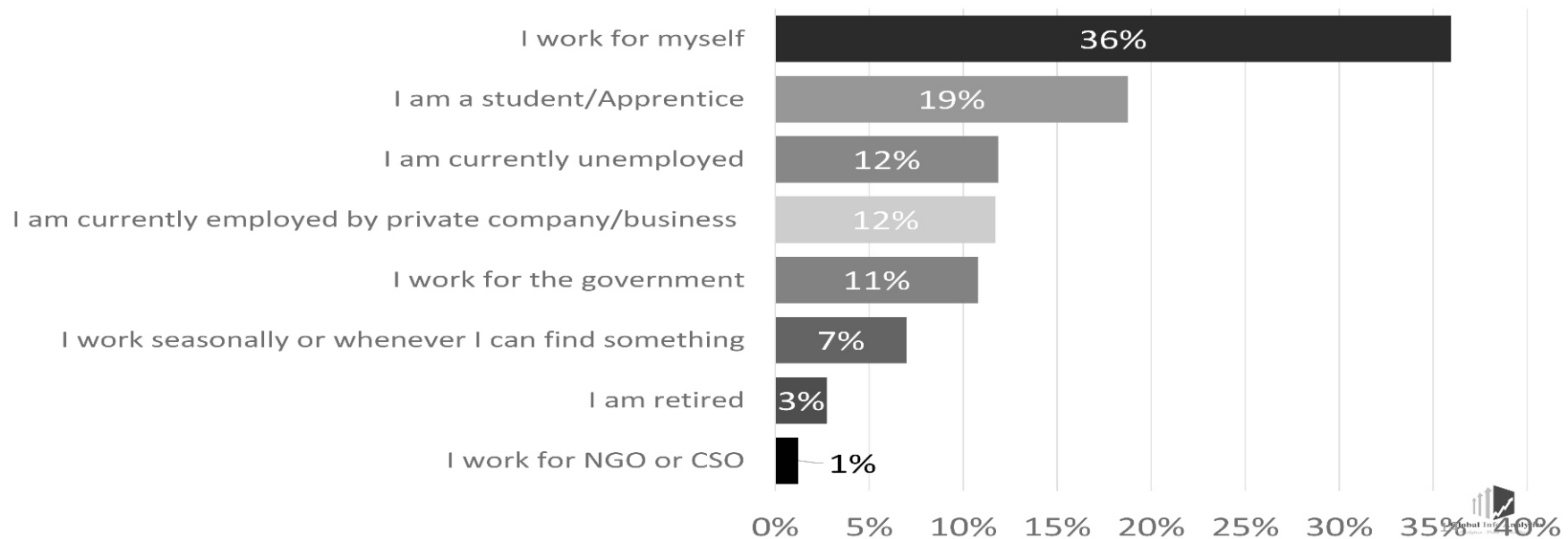
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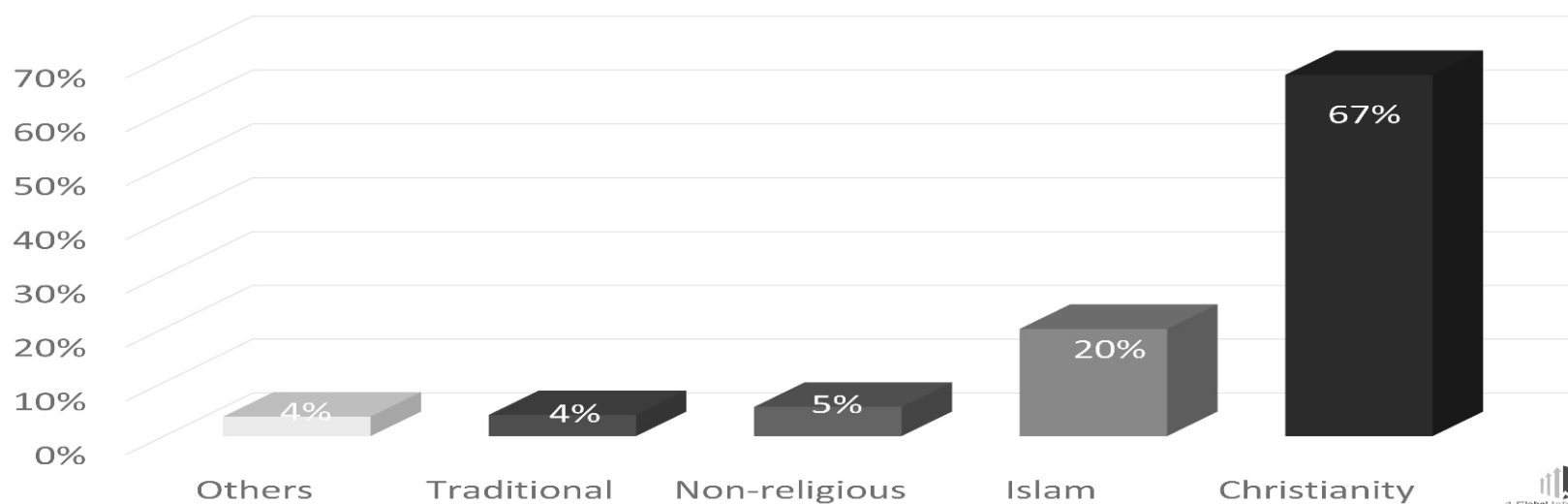
Education



Employment Status

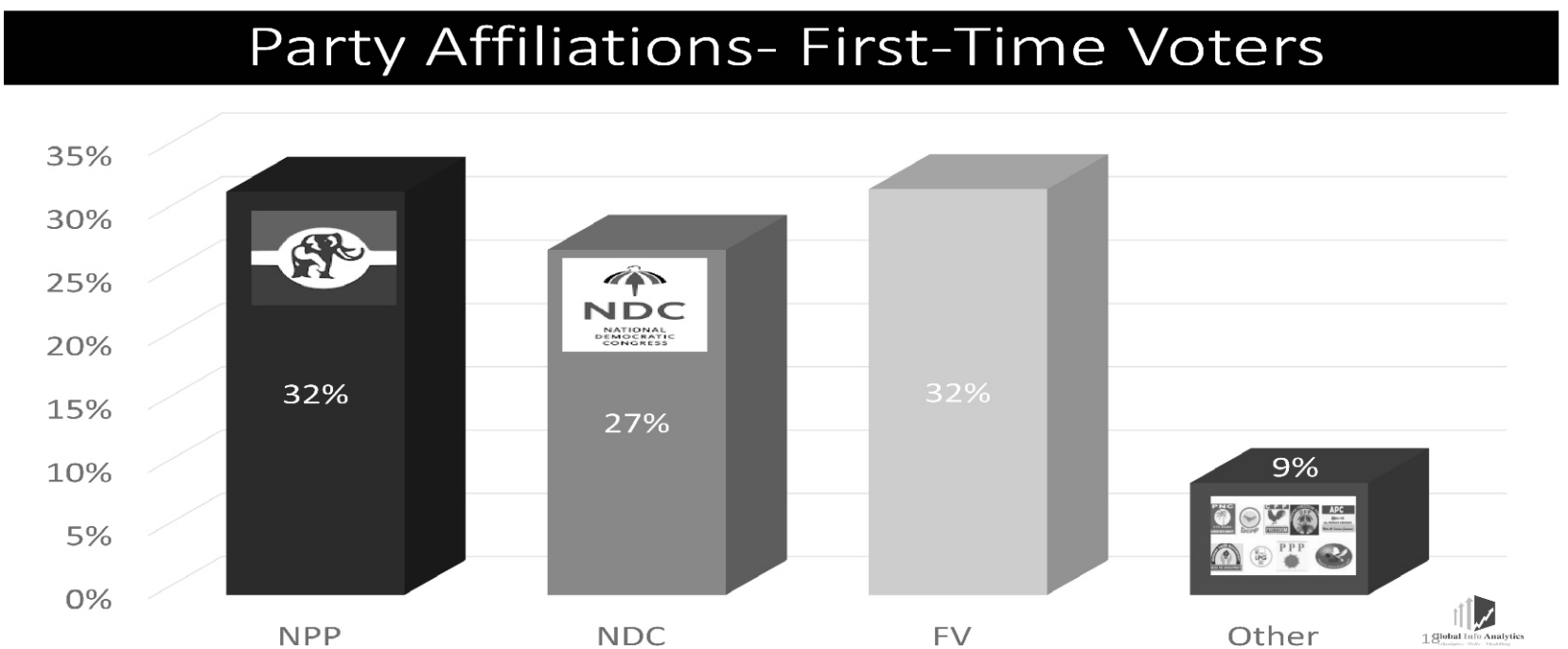
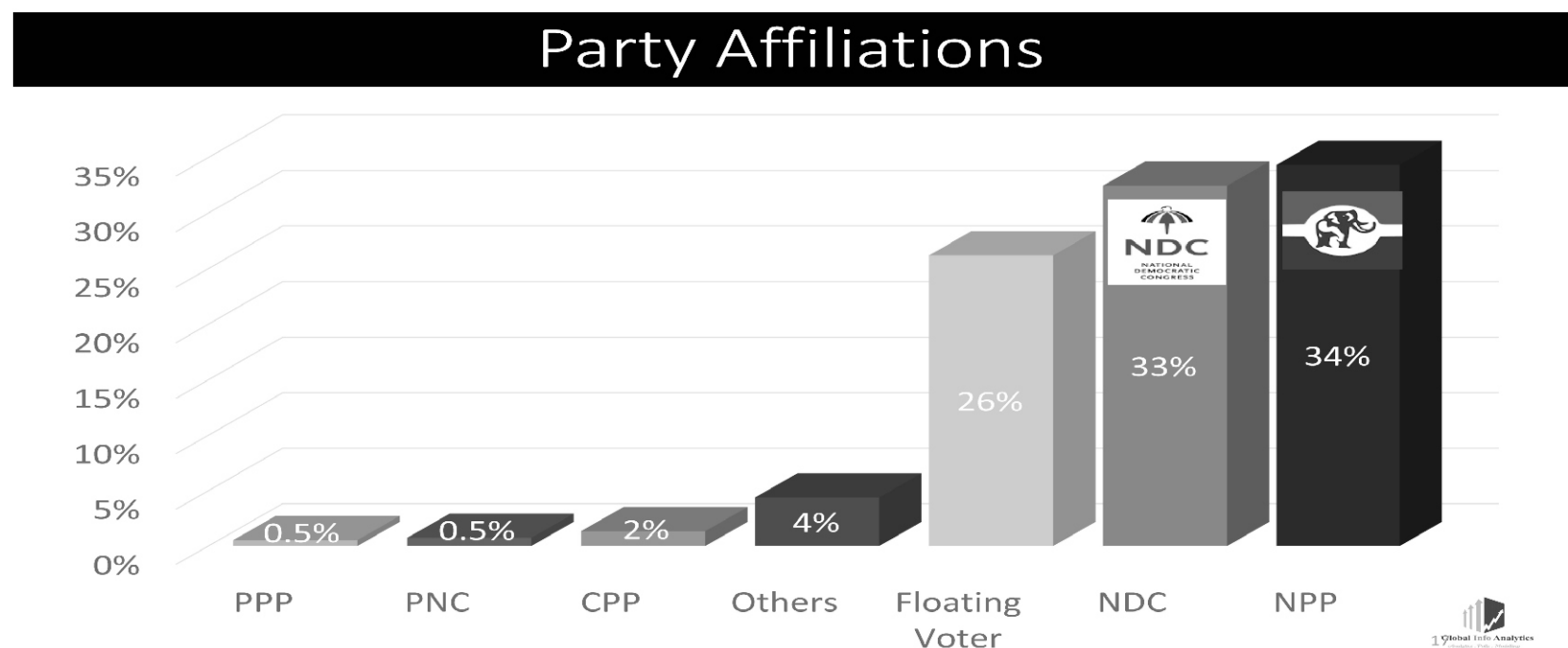
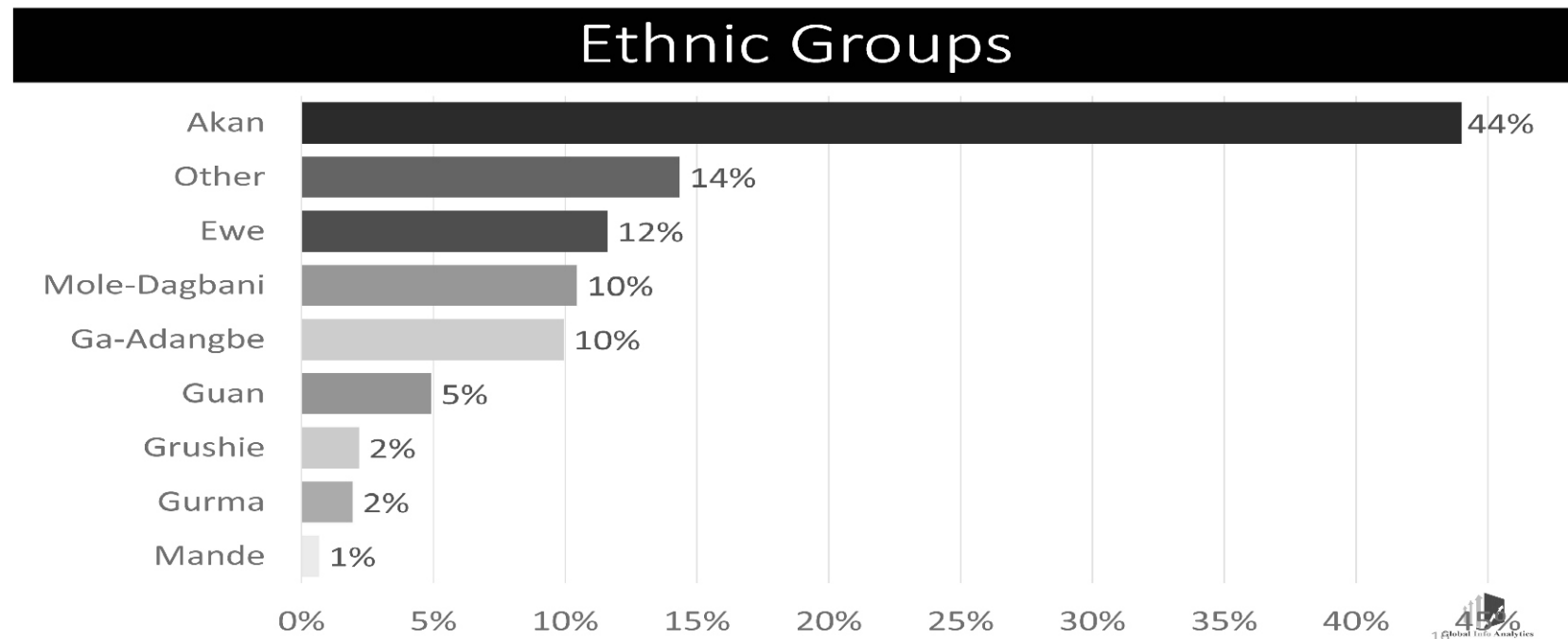


Religion



cont. on page 10

Global Info Analytics New Opinion Poll Reveals GHANA HEADING IN WRONG DIRECTION



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