

Bahrain

There is no clear definition of youth on the [General Organization for Youth and Sports \(GOYS\)](#) website, nor in any of its publications.

DEFINITION OF YOUTH



Candidacy Age



Criminal Responsibility



Majority Age



Voting Age



SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

Net Enrolment Rates



Literacy Rates



Youth Development



Tobacco Use

Consumed any smokeless or smoking tobacco product at least once during the 30 days prior to the survey.



Prevalence of HIV



YOUTH POLICY & LEGISLATION

It is unclear if Bahrain currently has a national youth policy. According to a [UNDP press release](#) in May 2011, a pre-launch event was held for the "National Youth Strategy 2011-2015", which was drafted though a partnership between UNDP and the [General Organization for Youth and Sports \(GOYS\)](#).

The strategy was described as advocating for the promotion of culture and belonging, education linked to innovation and enhancing skills such as IT and languages. It would also integrate several sectors including education, work, information technologies and health. As of the date of the publication of this fact sheet, the [GOYS website](#) has no mention of the youth strategy nor the partnership with UNDP. The strategy also does not appear to exist anywhere online.

YOUTH POLICY FACT SHEET

[HTTP://WWW.YOUTHPOLICY.ORG/FACTSHEETS/COUNTRY/BAHRAIN](http://www.youthpolicy.org/factsheets/country/bahrain)

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 23,039.68

Year: 2012, Source: World Bank

HDI

0.796¹

48 out of 187 countries.

Year: 2012, Source: UNDP

GINI

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Year: No data, Source: World Bank

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

48³

57 out of 177 countries.

Year: 2013, Source: Transparency International

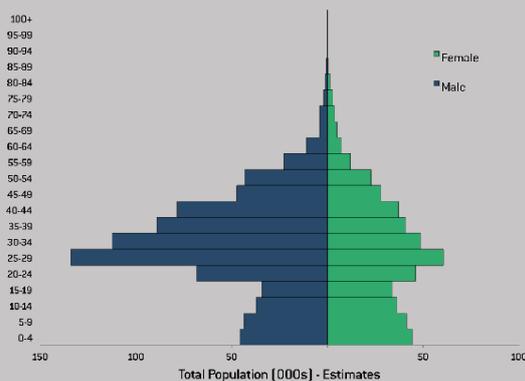
PRESS FREEDOM

62.75⁴

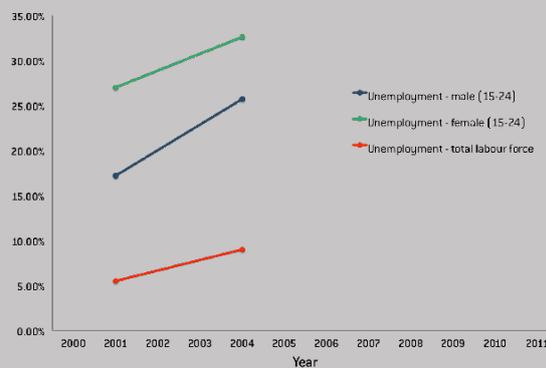
165 out of 179 countries.

Year: 2013, Source: Reporters Without Borders

Population by Age and Sex 2010



Youth Unemployment (share of labour force aged 15-24 available and seeking employment)



Is there a national youth policy?

Unclear

While a 2011-2015 youth strategy was prelaunched it is unclear whether a youth policy exists.

YOUTH & PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

Bahrain's **General Organization for Youth and Sports (GOYS)** was formed in 1983 and is a specialised body that implements plans, projects and programmes in accordance with the decisions and recommendations of the **Supreme Council for Youth and Sports**, which itself was created in 1975. The vision of GOYS is "youths with a Bahraini identity and global contribution". It aims to achieve this with programmes and activities for youth "that contribute in pushing the wheel of the Bahraini economy and empowering competitiveness."

Is there a governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth?

Yes

YOUTH & REPRESENTATION

The **Bahrain Youth Council** (also called the Bahrain Youth Society) was founded in July 2004. It is unclear what role the Council plays in representing youth. Its purpose is to support the government in instilling national belonging among young people, and promoting youth talent and leadership. Under the name Bahrain Youth Society, it was but one of many youth groups that participated in the government-led **National Dialogue** talks, which according to the **BBC on 9 January 2014**, are intended to resolve tensions after the repression of popular protests in the same year.

Does the country have a national youth organisation/association (council, platform, body)?

Unclear

YOUTH BUDGET & SPENDING

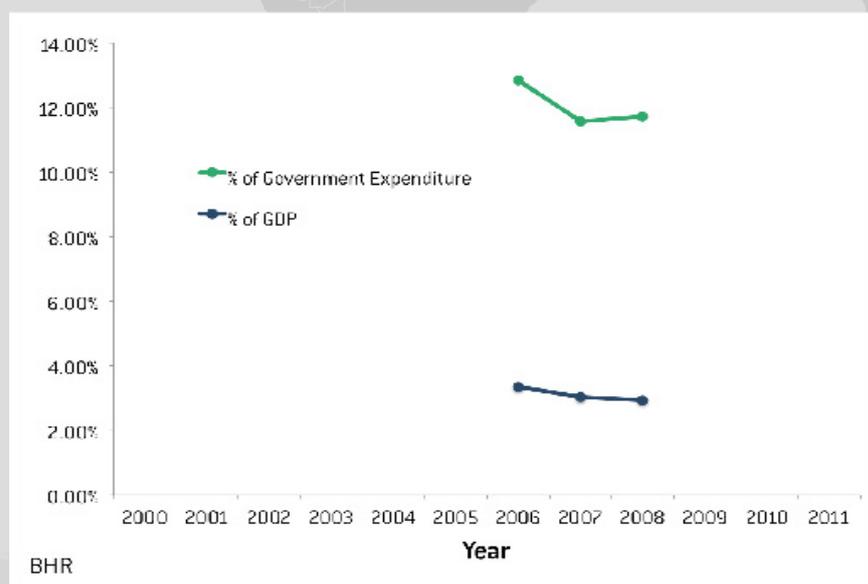
The total cumulative budget for 2011-2012 for the **General Organization for Youth and Sports** and the **Supreme Council for Youth and Sports** is BHD 30.9 million (USD 82 million). It is unclear what portion of this amount is specifically for youth.

According to the **World Bank**, Bahrain spent 11.72% of its government expenditure and 2.93% of its GDP on education provision in 2008.

What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or youth programming?

Unclear

Total Expenditure on Education as a Percentage of Government Spending and GDP



Source: **World Bank**

Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed August 2013).

Publications & Reviews

Visit our library for further reading:

<http://www.youthpolicy.org/library/bahrain>

Footnotes

- 1) A Human Development Index (HDI) value of zero means low human development, and a value of 1 means very high human development. HDI is a composite index measuring three dimensions: a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living. (UNDP)
- 2) An Income Gini coefficient of zero means absolute equality, and a coefficient of 100 means absolute inequality. Note: figures multiplied by 100 for OECD data. (World Bank/OECD)
- 3) A Corruption Perception Index (CPI) value of zero means that a country is perceived as highly corrupt, and a value of 100 means it is perceived as very clean. (Transparency International)
- 4) A Press Freedom Index (PFI) value of zero means the highest degree of freedom that journalists, news organisations and netizens enjoy, and a value of 100 means the lowest. (Reporters Without Borders)
- 5) A Youth Development Index (YDI) value of zero means little or absolutely no youth development, and a value of 1 means the highest possible level of youth development attainable. YDI is a composite index measuring five domains: education, health, employment, political, and civic participation. (Commonwealth Youth Programme)



For full citation list & more information, visit:

<http://www.youthpolicy.org/factsheets/country/bahrain>

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