

Factsheet: Cameroon

Last update: 30 June 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

Cameroon's [national youth policy](#) (2006) defines youth as persons between the age of 15 and 35.

CANDIDACY AGE

Lower House **23**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

Upper House **40**

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)
Partially indirectly elected and appointed.

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

	Without Parental Consent	Opposite Sex	With Parental Consent	Same Sex
Male	15	--	XX	XX
Female	18	--	XX	XX

No data for minimum legal age for marriage with parental consent. Homosexual acts illegal. Source: [UNSD](#), [ILGA](#)

VOTING AGE

20

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

MAJORITY AGE

21

Source: [Cameroon Nationality Code](#) (1968)

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

10

Minimum Age
Source: [Penal Code of Cameroon](#) (1967)

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 1328.64

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

HDI

0.495

Year: 2013

Source: [UNDP](#)
152 out of 187 countries.

GINI

40.72

Year: 2007

Source: [World Bank](#)

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

27

136 out of 177 countries.
Year: 2014

Source: [Transparency International](#)

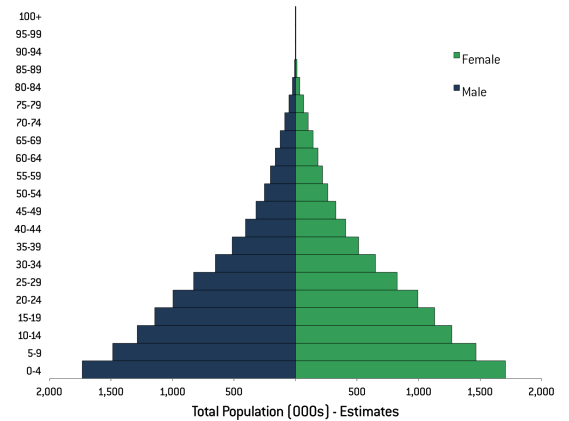
PRESS FREEDOM

38.13

131 out of 180 countries.
Year: 2013

Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010



SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.44

130 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

LITERACY RATES

83.80%

Both sexes (15-24) %

87.12% **80.45%**

Male (15-24) % Female (15-24) %

Year: 2015

Source: [UNESCO](#)

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

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Both sexes %

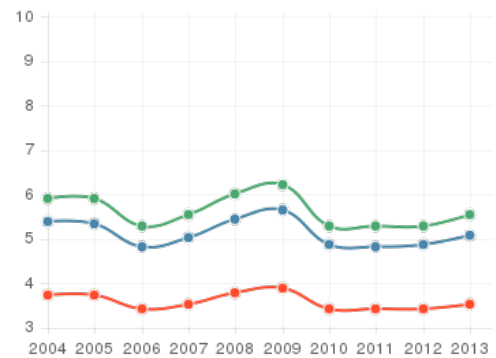
Male % Female %

Year: No data.

Source: [UNESCO](#)

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

Share of labour force aged 15-24 available and seeking employment



SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

1.0%

Male (15-24) %

1.9%

Female (15-24) %

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

TOBACCO USE

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

10.90%

Both sexes (13-15) %

14.00%

Male (13-15) %

8.20%

Female (13-15) %

Year: 2010

Source: [WHO](#)

POLICY & LEGISLATION

The [national youth policy](#) is anchored in both national priorities and international commitments of the [Cameroonian government](#). The policy of 2006 prioritises national development and building a prosperous and peaceful country. It was formulated in a consultative process involving representatives of public institutions, private organizations, civil society, UN agencies, and youth movements. The policy document outlines a participatory and multi-sectoral approach. It focuses on the education sector, the provision of nutrition and health services to young people, and seeks to respond the scarcity of employment. As a member of the [Commonwealth of Nations](#), Cameroon is a signatory of [The Commonwealth Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment \(PAYE\) 2006-2015](#). It lists 13 action points including youth empowerment, youth governance, participation, gender equality, education, health and ICT.

Is there a national youth policy?

YES

Cameroon has a 2006 national youth policy, but lacks instruments for its systematic implementation.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

BUDGET & SPENDING

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

Since 2004, Cameroon has a dedicated [Ministry for Youth and Sports](#), which is responsible for the coordination and implementation of the [national youth policy](#). Another relevant body is the Inter-ministerial Committee in which relevant stakeholders and youth organizations are deemed to be represented. It is tasked with ensuring implementation of programs and action plans provided for in the [national youth policy](#), and taking into account the concerns of young people in the development and implementation of programs and action plans.

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

YES

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The [National Council of Youth of Cameroon \(CNJC\)](#) was established to give young people a voice in the political processes of Cameroon. The first elections took place in 2009. These were open to all registered youth associations, movements and groups in Cameroon. The CNJC is designed as an apolitical, secular, non-profit institution that serves as national forum for consultation, expression, co-ordination, dialogue and action of youth organisations. The CNJC operates under the Ministry of Youth & Sports. At a global level, Cameroon is a member of the [Commonwealth Youth Council](#).

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

YES

BUDGET & SPENDING

No budgetary information regarding youth spending in Cameroon could be found online. According to the [World Bank](#), Cameroon spent 16.3% of its government expenditure and 3.2% of its GDP on education provision in 2011

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

UNCLEAR

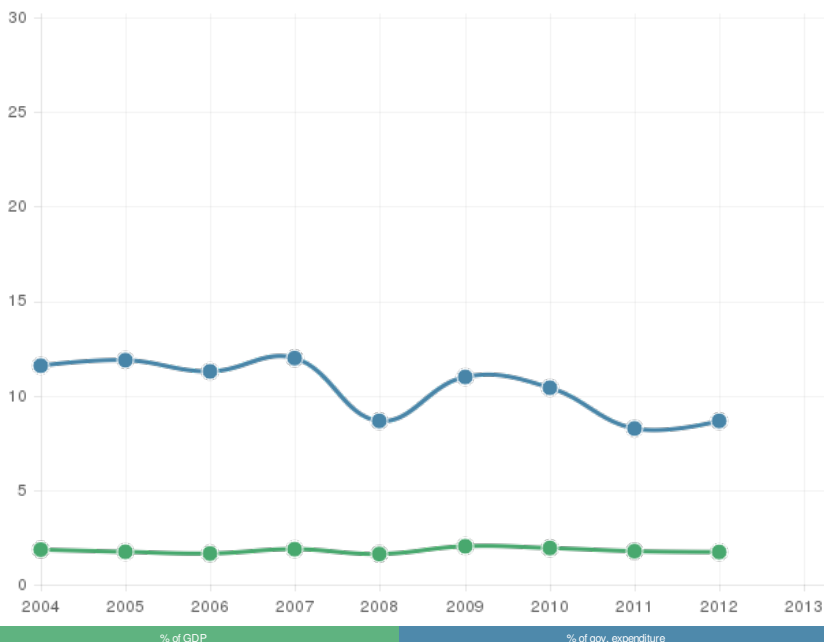
youth programming?

UNCLEAR

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TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING AND GDP

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).

% of GDP

% of gov. expenditure

Source: [World Bank](#)
Gaps indicate missing data from the original data source. (Accessed August 2013).

PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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