

Factsheet: Ecuador

Last update: 11 June 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

Both the [National Youth Policy](#) (2012) and [Youth Law](#) (2011) consider youth to be those aged between 18 and 29 years old.

CANDIDACY AGE

Lower House **30**
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

Upper House **--**
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)
Unicameral.

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

	Without Parental Consent	Opposite Sex With Parental Consent	Same Sex
Male	18	0	++
Female	18	0	++

No minimum age for opposite sex marriage with parental consent. Civil unions/partnerships legal. Source: [UNSD](#), [ILGA](#)

VOTING AGE

16

Compulsory voting from 18-65 years. Voting is voluntary from 16-18 years, over 65 years.
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

MAJORITY AGE

18

Source: [UN Child Rights Periodic Report](#) (1996)

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

12

Minimum Age
Adolescents, 12 to 18 years of age, are not imputable under criminal law, but are liable for their actions. Source: [Code of Children and Adolescents of Ecuador](#) (2003)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.44

131 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

LITERACY RATES

98.83%

Both sexes (15-24) %

98.83% **98.82%**

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

Year: 2015

Source: [UNESCO](#)

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

74.03%

Both sexes %

73.10% **74.99%**

Male % Female %

Year: 2012

Source: [UNESCO](#)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

0.3%

Male (15-24) %

0.2%

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.

28.60%

Both sexes (13-15) %

31.20% **26.10%**

Male (13-15) % Female (13-15) %

Year: 2010

Source: [WHO](#)

POLICY & LEGISLATION

The [Ecuadorian Youth Law](#) (2011) aims to protect the rights of youth aged 18 to 29 and to ensure the full development of youth as strategic actors in the country. The law is founded on the principles of equality; non-discrimination; participation; favourable treatment; responsibility (state, society and family) The [national youth policy](#) (2012) focuses on nine policy areas including education, work, health, housing, culture, and participation, each of which are associated with indicators and performance measures. Article 39 of the [Ecuadorian Constitution](#) (2008) states that the government will guarantee and promote the young people's rights (ex. health, housing, freedom of expression and association) through policies, programmes, institutions and resources. The [National Plan for Good Living – 2013-2017](#), aims to reverse the growing trend of youth unemployment.

Is there a national youth policy?

YES

Ecuador has a 2001 [youth law](#). The [2012-2013 youth policy](#) focuses on equality.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 6002.89

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

HDI

0.724

Year: 2013

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

GINI

46.57

Year: 2012

Source: [World Bank](#)

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

33

110 out of 177 countries.

Year: 2014

Source: [Transparency International](#)

PRESS FREEDOM

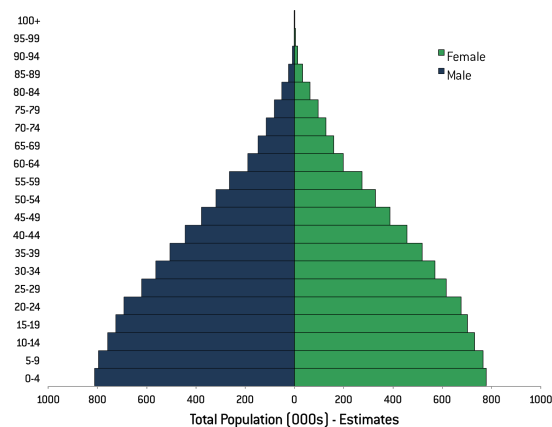
31.16

95 out of 180 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010



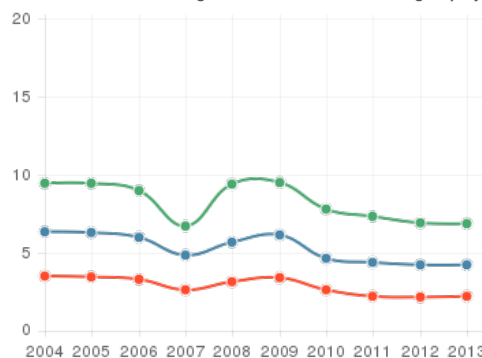
ECU

Source: [United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs - Population Division](#)

2012 Revision - Estimates. (Accessed August 2013).

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

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



male - (15-24)

female - (15-24)

total labour force

Source: [World Bank](#)

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

BUDGET & SPENDING

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

The [Ministry for Economic and Social Inclusion \(MIES\)](#) led the inter-ministerial committee that formulated the [national youth policy \(2012\)](#). Although its focus is on the whole life cycle, the MIES is the government ministry with primary responsibility for youth and youth policy. The Minister of MIES is president of the [National Council for Children and Adolescents](#) (to become National Council for Equality between Generations); an inter-ministerial and inter-agency body with responsibility for ensuring that youth obtains the rights enshrined in the constitution.

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

YES

youth programming?

UNCLEAR

The [Agenda for Equality of Youth \(2012\)](#) states that there are no mechanisms for measuring and budgets of the actions of the institutions of power. According to the [World Bank](#), Ecuador spent 13.28% of its government expenditure and 4.36% of its GDP on education provision in 2012.

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The [Ecuadorian Youth Law \(2011\)](#) states that "young people are entitled to participate in all matters which interest or affect them, especially in the design and evaluation of policies, actions and programmes" directly or through constituted organisations. The [National Youth Policy \(2012\)](#) aims to promote and strengthen the right of participation and public and political representation of youth. However, Ecuador does not have a national youth organisation or association that acts as a platform for youth involvement in decision-making.

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

NO

BUDGET & SPENDING

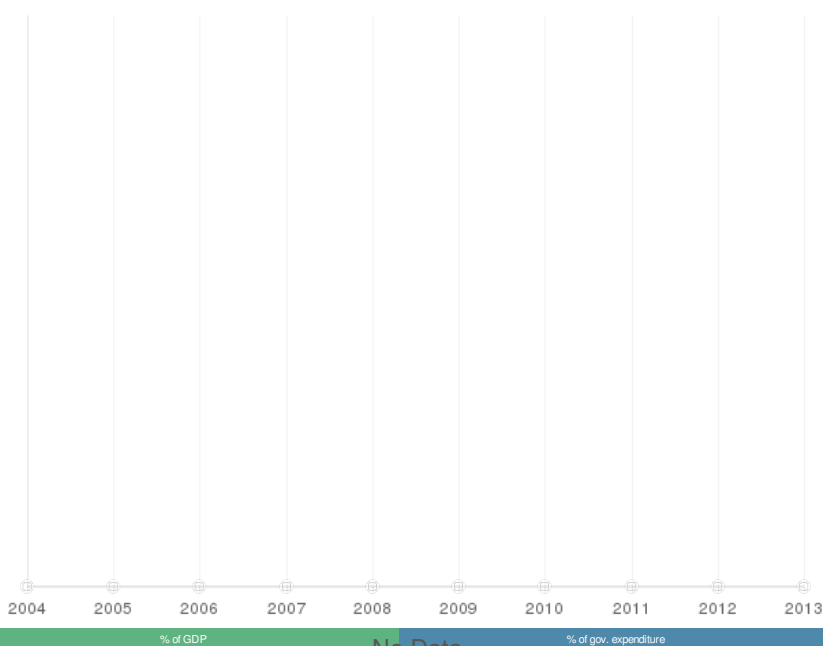
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UNCLEAR

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).

No Data

% 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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