

Factsheet: Guatemala

Last update: 6 March 2014

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

The [national youth policy](#) (2012) notes many differing definitions of youth within current Guatemalan legislation, but focuses the policy on for those aged 13-30 years.

CANDIDACY AGE

Lower House **18**
Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

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

MARRIAGEABLE AGE

| | Without Parental Consent | Opposite Sex With Parental Consent | Same Sex |
|--------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| Male | | 16 | -- |
| Female | 18 | 14 | -- |

No specific legislation for same-sex marriage. Homosexual acts legal. Source: [UNSD, ILGA](#)

VOTING AGE

18

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

MAJORITY AGE

18

Source: [Civil Code](#) (1996)

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

13

Minimum Age
Criminal responsibility in the [Civil Code](#) (1996) is 18. Children 13-18 may be held in a youth institution. Source: [Childhood and Youth Protection Law of Guatemala](#) (2003)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.35

150 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Commonwealth Youth Programme](#)

LITERACY RATES

95.37%

Both sexes (15-24) %

96.57% **94.18%**

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

Year: 2015

Source: [UNESCO](#)

NET ENROLMENT RATE

Secondary School

46.43%

Both sexes %

48.30% **44.54%**

Male % Female %

Year: 2011

Source: [UNESCO](#)

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

0.3%

Male (15-24) %

0.3%

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.

16.60%

Both sexes (13-15) %

19.70%

Male (13-15) %

13.30%

Female (13-15) %

Year: 2010

Source: [WHO](#)

POLICY & LEGISLATION

The [national youth policy](#) (2012-2020) replaces the previous [national youth policy](#) (2010-2015). Its vision is to "empower youth and build an inclusive, prosperous, democratic and equitable" country. The policy intends to "guide the activities, resources and efforts of the public sector, private agencies and youth organisations" affecting young people in Guatemala. It focuses on ten priority areas: Education; Work and Productivity; Health; Recreation, Culture & Sport; Violence Prevention; Housing; Environment; Gender Equality; Multiculturalism, and; Participation & Citizenship. A 2012-2016 action plan exists which sets the strategic framework for policy actions. It is not available online.

Is there a national youth policy?

YES

The current [national youth policy](#) covers 2012-2020, the [previous one](#) covered 2010-2015.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

GDP PER CAPITA

USD 3477.89

Year: 2013

Source: [World Bank](#)

HDI

0.581

Year: 2013

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

GINI

52.35

Year: 2011

Source: [World Bank](#)

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION

32

115 out of 177 countries.

Year: 2014

Source: [Transparency International](#)

PRESS FREEDOM

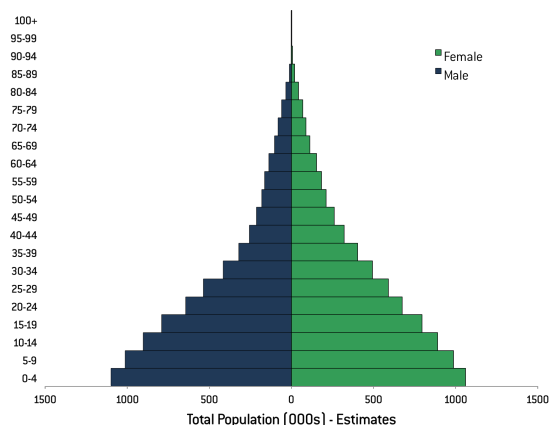
36.61

125 out of 180 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: [Reporters Without Borders](#)

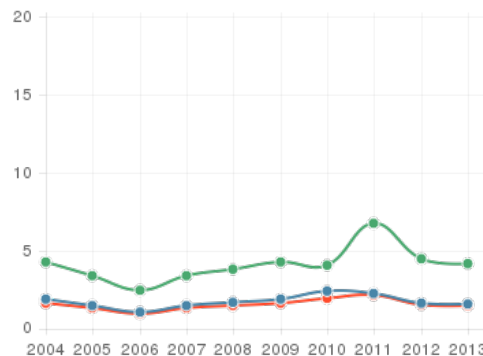
POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX 2010



GTM

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 **National Youth Council** (CONJUVE) is the "governing body of public youth policies" and coordinates youth affairs across government, national and international institutions and youth organisations. A "Youth Cabinet" comprised of representatives from each ministry exists for improved inter-ministerial coordination. Networks of regional and municipal youth offices exist for improved coordination of youth policy. The [national youth policy](#) (2010-2015) notes a "Secretary of Youth" but the presence and role of this post remains unclear.

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

YES

youth programming?

GTQ 4.4 MILLION

USD 573,290

According to the [Approved budget for 2012](#), the budget for the **National Youth Council** (CONJUVE) in 2012 was GTQ 4.4 million (USD 573,290). According to the [World Bank](#), Guatemala spent 21.13% of its government expenditure and 2.97% of its GDP on education provision in 2012.

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

Although the governmental ministry **CONJUVE** is named the "National Youth Council", it is unclear what representative function it has and the extent to which young people are involved beyond the "development of youth networks". A "Youth Advisory Committee" is detailed in the [national youth policy](#) (2012-2020) as a space for young people and national youth organisations to engage in dialogue with the "Youth Cabinet" on the implementation of youth policies. Participation is one of the ten strategic priorities of the policy.

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

UNCLEAR

BUDGET & SPENDING

According to the [Approved budget for 2012](#), the budget for the **National Youth Council** (CONJUVE) in 2012 was GTQ 4.4 million (USD 573,290). According to the [World Bank](#), Guatemala spent 21.13% of its government expenditure and 2.97% of its GDP on education provision in 2012.

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

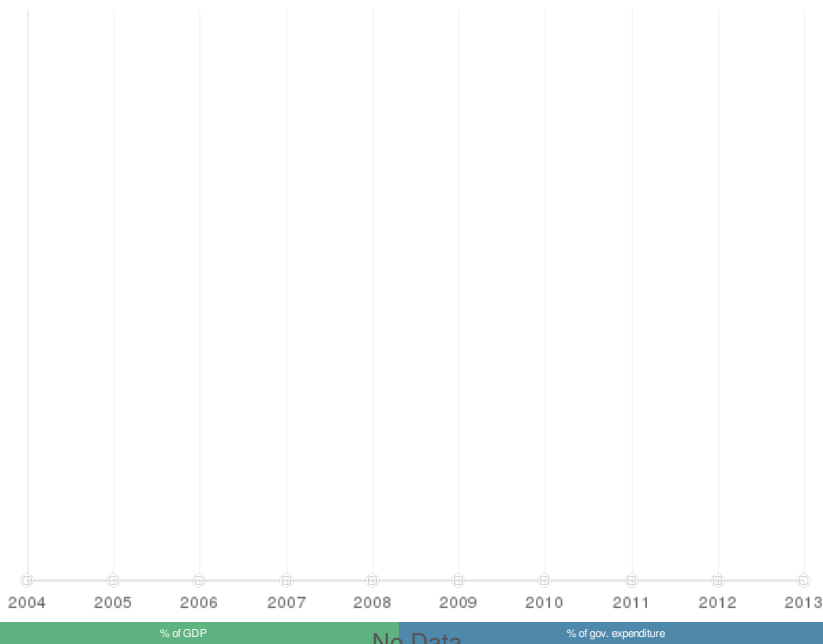
GTQ 4.4 MILLION

USD 573,290

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

No Data

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

Visit our library for further reading:
[Documents about Guatemala](#)