Factsheet: Netherlands

DEFINITION OF YOUTH

According to the 2007 report *Youth Policy in the Netherlands*, the term youth is applied to children and young people from 0 to 24 years of age.

CANDIDACY AGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MARRIAGEABLE AGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower House</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

Source: Government of the Netherlands – Ministry of Security and Justice

Opposite Sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>WITH PARENTAL CONSENT</th>
<th>WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE LEGAL: Source: UNSD, ILGA

VOTING AGE

18

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

MAJORITY AGE

18

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

12

Minimum Age

Source: Government of the Netherlands

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX

0.8

4 out of 170 countries.

Year: 2013

Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme

LITERACY RATES

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Both sexes (15-24) %

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Both sexes %

Secondary School

90.22%

Year: No data.

Source: UNESCO

NET ENROLMENT RATE

90.22%

Secondary School

Both sexes %

89.64% Male %

90.82% Female %

Year: 2012

Source: UNESCO

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

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Male (15-24) %

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Female (15-24) %

Year: No data.

Source: World Bank

TOBACCO USE

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

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Both sexes (13-15) %

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Both sexes (13-15) %

Year: No data.

Source: WHO

POLICY & LEGISLATION

Youth Policy in the Netherlands (2007) by the Netherlands Youth Institute describes the multi-sectoral approach of youth policy in areas of family policy & child protection, health, education & leisure and employment. The Ministry for Youth and Families (now the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport) is responsible for the coordination of youth-related policies throughout different ministries and at various levels of government. According to a 2012 report by the same institute, Dutch youth policy is shifting from a problem-focused (negative) approach to one that is development-oriented and demand-led (positive). As described in a 2011 international review on Dutch youth policies, the aim is to “guide children, youth people and their parents in their opportunities and foster their empowerment.”

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

There is a national youth policy?

YES

Youth policy in the Netherlands is undergoing a shift, 2011 review and 2012 briefing explain.

Source: World Bank

Gaps indicate missing data from the original data sources. (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 of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS) is the national ministry responsible for coordinating youth-related policies across sectors (e.g., health, education and justice). As described in the country sheet on youth policy (2012), the Netherlands is a decentralised unitary state. Provincial and local authorities operate with a degree of autonomy, however cooperate on some initiatives. For example, an online portal for youth (Voor de jeugd) is a joint initiative of the VWS, the Ministry of Security and Justice and an association of Dutch municipalities.

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

The Dutch National Youth Council (NJR) is a peer-led, umbrella organisation for national youth organisations in the Netherlands. Its target age is youth aged 12-30. According to country sheet on youth policy (2012), the council is responsible for improving youth participation at local and national levels, as well as advocating for youth and youth organisations. It was formed in 2001 with financial support from the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, and currently receives funding from a variety of departments and organisations. The NJR is a member of the European Youth Forum.

BUDGET & SPENDING

According to the 2014 State Budget, youth (as a policy item within the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport) has a budget of EUR 1.4 million (USD 1.9 million). According to the World Bank, the Netherlands spent 11.65% of its government expenditure and 5.96% of its GDP on education provision in 2010.

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 AND REVIEWS

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