DEFINITION OF YOUTH

Although the Arab League of Nations adopts an age category for youth of 15-35, the Palestinian Youth Cross-Cutting Strategy (2011) defines youth as between 13-29 years.

CANDIDACY AGE

| Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union |
| Lower House | 28 |

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union</th>
<th>Upper House</th>
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MARRIAGEABLE AGE

| Without Parental Consent | With Parental Consent |
| Opposite Sex | Same Sex |
| Male | 15.5 | -- |
| Female | -- | 14.5 |

Parental consent is required for women to marry, but not for men. Age of consent for homo- and heterosexual relationships is equal in West Bank. In Gaza same sex relations can result in imprisonment from 14-years to a life-long. Source: UNSD, ILGA

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INDEX | LITERACY RATES | NET ENROLLMENT RATE

| Year: No data | 99.36% | Secondary School |
| Source: Commonwealth Youth Programme | Both sexes % | 80.66% |
| Male (15-24) | 99.45% | Both sexes % |
| Female (15-24) | 99.27% | Male % |

Source: UNESCO Year: 2015

TOBACCO USE

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

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

SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

PREVALENCE OF HIV

[Data not available]

Source: World Bank

TOBACCO USE

[Data not available]

Source: WHO

POLICY & LEGISLATION

The national youth policy - planning document (2005) outlines the guiding principles and terms of reference used by governmental and non-governmental organisations during an effort to establish a national youth policy. This process was put on hold following the creation of the Higher Council of Youth and Sport. The more recent, but expired Youth Cross-cutting Strategy (2011-2013) includes a situation analysis of a range of policy areas. It notes the vision for Palestine’s youth as being “empowered and participative youth, who have diversified and equitable opportunities for a balanced growth within the framework of a democratic, pluralistic society.” The youth policy and strategy of Palestine will be revised. A youth study and a policy study exist.

Is there a national youth policy?

**NO**

The youth policy and strategy of Palestine will be revised. A youth study and a policy study exist.

Source: World Bank

BUDGET & SPENDING

What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or...
strategy presents four strategic objectives (related to participation; citizenship and rights; empowerment, and access).

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The Higher Council for Youth and Sports (HCYS) operates in the West Bank and Gaza. The headquarters of the HCYS are located in Ramallah and regional offices are located in north, south and central areas. The HCYS aims to establish a democratic Palestinian society and free nation, which provides citizens with equal opportunities. It aims to do this by providing a legal environment for organising youth work and sports; promoting the values of citizenship, belonging and civil rights; providing an environment for physical activity, and providing infrastructure.

YOUTH AND REPRESENTATION

No broad-based national youth organisation could be found in Palestine. There however exists the Palestinian Youth Legislative Council (launched in 2013), a voluntary youth body that aims to provide an opportunity for youth participation and leadership for 132 young people aged 18-30. The initiative includes young people from the West Bank, Jerusalem and Gaza and replicates the structure of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC). Sharek Youth Forum implements the programme in partnership with the Palestinian Legislative Council and the United Nations Development Programme. The Government of Belgium funds the programme.

BUDGET & SPENDING

According to Ma'an News Agency NIS 67 million (USD 19 million) was the budget allotted to the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports in 2013 (the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports is the name sometimes used for the Higher Council for Youth and Sports in 2013). However, it is unclear what proportion of this amount is specifically for youth. The World Bank data centre does not currently collate data related to government expenditure on education provision in Palestine.

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

No Data

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

PUBLICATIONS AND REVIEWS

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